THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 54 MARCH 15, 1929 NO. 6

BOOK BUYING
I. FOR A NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY
II. THE WESTERN COAST PROBLEM

THE ACQUISITION AND CARE OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
MARY RUDD COCHRAN

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Von Dr. Otto Dannehl. Mit 3 Tafeln. Oktav. VIII, 404 Seiten. RM 8.50, in Leinen geb. 10.—

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EUSEBIUS ALS HISTORIKER SEINER ZEIT

Von Richard Laqueur, ord. Professor für alte Geschichte an der Universität Giessen. Oktav. X, 228 Seiten. RM 18.— (Arbeiten zur Kirchengeschichte, hrsgb. von Emanuel Hirsch und Hans Lietzmann, 11.)

Der Verfasser geht über die gewöhnliche Art der Textbetrachtung, die einer Quelle wie der Kirchengeschichte gegenüber völlig versagen muss, hinaus, indem er die vielgeübte Scheidung zwischen Quellenkritik und geschichtlicher Erfassung der Zusammenhänge aufgibt und in der vorliegenden Untersuchung zeigt, wie das alte dürftige Gerippe der Verfolgungsgeschichte allmählich durch die Einarbeitung neuerschlossener Quellen aufgefüllt wurde. Zum erstenmal tritt die Bedeutung des Eusebius als Historiker klar hervor; zugleich werden die mannigfachen politischen und religiösen Kräfte, die in der Zeit Konstantins lebendig wirken und in dem Werk des Eusebius einen Niederschlag gefunden haben, aufgezeigt.

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Das Paläolithikum. Von Dr. phil. **Herbert Kühn.** Privatdozent an der Universität Köln. Mit 1659 Abbildungen im Text, 120 Tafeln in Schwarzdruck, 6 Tafeln in Buntdruck, 8 Karten und Namen-, geographischem und Sachverzeichnis. Lexikon-Oktav. II, 529 Seiten. RM 40.—, in Leinen geb. 42.—

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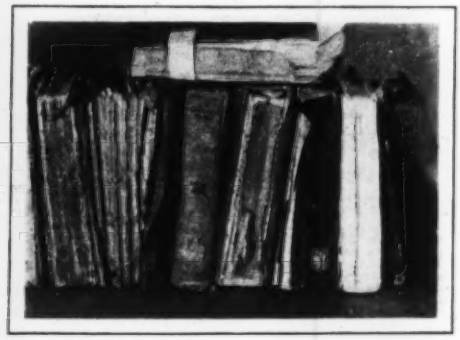

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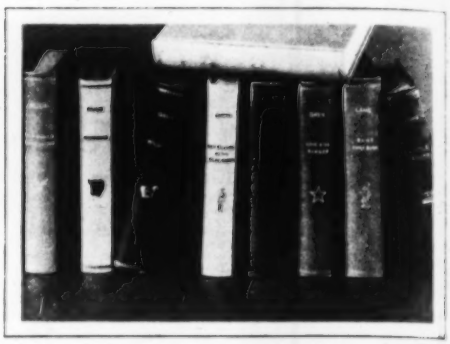

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Buying Books for a New England Library

By Greta E. Brown

Librarian, Library of the New Britain Institute, New Britain, Connecticut

HALFWAY between New York and Boston, an industrial town, with a large percentage of its 80,000 people foreign born, New Britain may be taken as a representative New England community. The demands upon its public library are almost as varied as those of a large city; in a way more so, for it has not the special libraries that the big cities offer. There are the ever-present patrons whose one demand is entertainment, fiction, both the old and the latest; the schools asking for good juvenile books and the most up-to-the-minute material on educational theories and methods for teachers; the business men who call for the newest word on advertising, salesmanship, office practice, etc.; the factory experts demanding the most authoritative technical books; the foreign-born factory workers hoping for books in their native language and in "easy" English; and, the occasional student, or serious general reader, who would like to find on our shelves the special and rare volumes that only individual gifts, or a fabulous book fund, would place in a public library. To buy intelligently for such a public the librarian must *see* books. In spite of, or possibly because of, the flood of publishers' announcements and advance reviews, it behooves one to know what he is getting.

New Britain has booksellers, but their stock is not large and is made up chiefly of popular titles that supply the circulating libraries. Fortunately, Hartford, only ten miles away, has two book shops: Edwin Valentine Mitchell, Inc. (which is also a publishing firm) and Witkower's, formerly G. F. Warfield & Co. At both shops one may find a fair assortment of new and standard books. Mr. Mitchell's old brick house invites browsing, and he allows librarians the privilege of taking books on approval. Even with such an oasis the librarian must visit the large cities in order to keep abreast of the rushing tide of new books, and while sales catalogs are conned and often yield gratifying results in the way of standard items and occasional out-of-print volumes, much more can be done by direct contact. For part of its general non-fiction and technical books this library buys from Baker & Taylor, whose service is too widely known to need comment, but in the case of some titles the supply is exhausted before an order can be filled, and it is expensive to get imported books in this way. If a library is willing to wait and does not object to a sometimes worn appearance, it is worth while to buy expensive memoirs, essays and miscellaneous titles from Mudie and The Times Book Club (London). The hardest task in this library is to get promptly the latest technical books and the much discussed, popularly written books on affairs of the day. If a librarian cannot see the latter quickly and buy at once, the chances are that the first supply will be exhausted and he (or rather his patrons) must wait for another edition.

Probably we all have the *New York Times Book Review* with us, and certainly every librarian in this section knows the exasperation of Monday morning when readers come for books which have not gone beyond the advance reviewer. If we could only tell when they may be expected, provided we have the money to buy them! Foreign books are sought through various agencies, and most of them have to be bound, which adds to the cost and delays their appearance on our shelves. French, German, Italian, Swedish and Spanish books are

easily obtained from such well-known firms as Stechert of New York and Schoenhof of Boston; Polish and Bohemian books through their own agencies in New York and Chicago, and Yiddish and Russian books through accredited representatives who come to New England libraries from time to time. Miss Edna Phillips, library adviser on work with the foreign born, Division of Public Libraries of Massachusetts, gives invaluable help to librarians on buying foreign publications.

Our library has frequent calls for music scores, and one might expect to get these promptly from Ditson, Fischer or Schirmer. In the case of modern opera scores, however, it is often necessary to wait for them to be imported, so that more than once we have borrowed from the Library of Congress while waiting for an order to be filled. Certain kinds of music may profitably be obtained directly from J. & W. Chester, London. As we can put very little money into music, we buy, in most instances, only what our patrons ask for.

Buying books for boys and girls in these days and in this locality should be pure joy. Miss Mahony's individual and carefully chosen stock in her Boston shop connected with the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Miss Cutter's attractive quarters and the *de luxe* Harper's shop in New York, not to mention several in the smaller cities, offer librarians splendid opportunities to select juvenile literature.

At the holiday season there is an astonishing array of every kind of book to tempt the youthful eye in these places, and all the year round there is a generous supply of new and old favorites. Children who can make frequent visits to these treasure-houses are rich indeed. The librarian's only regret is the limitation imposed by the book fund.

Book shops for boys and girls now include fascinating importations from other lands. We have found that our library collection of foreign picture books serves a double purpose. When the evening school classes of foreign-born adults visit us for the first time the ice is often broken by a gaily illustrated folk tale in their native tongue.

For reinforced bindings to lengthen the lives of juvenile books we depend largely upon Huntting and The Library Book House of Springfield, Massachusetts.

One problem in juvenile book selection is the ever-increasing number of books on subjects that used to be reserved for older readers. Some of these are new material, but a great many are adapted, or abridged, from standard authors and require careful scrutiny in choosing. Speaking generally, I have a deep-rooted prejudice against making over classics for popular consumption, but a few great books have not been harmed by being fitted to youthful readers. A happy example of this is *Pilgrim's Progress* abridged by Edith Freelove Smith for the Atlantic Monthly Press. Miss Smith says in her foreword that her version of the narrative is shorn of seventeenth century doctrinal theology, but special pains has been taken to preserve the vigor of the original text. Many editors, however, have not been as honorable in their treatment of the classics.

Again, there is need of careful discrimination in buying books of information written in story form; these are so often poor, both as to matter and manner. All of which goes to show that, if the librarian is to buy wisely, he must have access to large and varied collections of juvenile as well as adult books. I am not ignoring the many useful lists of books for boys and girls, nor the familiar *Children's Catalog* with its Supplements, but *nothing* can take the place of seeing and handling the actual volumes, whether we are choosing for a five-year-old or a man of affairs.

A still vexatious problem in book buying is the ever-recurring subscription set. We nearly always shun the agent of subscription books, though, of course, there have to be exceptions. *The Pageant of America*, published by the Yale Press, contains so much graphic material not easily found that we bought the set, after consulting a teacher of wide experience and unusual perspicacity. Timely help with this problem is being furnished by the Committee on Subscription Books of the Massachusetts Library Club.

Fiction is perhaps more often questioned than any other division of the public library collection, and the librarian is frequently called to account for harboring a "questionable" novel. It is necessary, however, to remember that while New England has its Puritan tradition, it has also a growing number of "younger generation" readers, and those with a European background, who are going to know what the newest and most radical authors are saying. Whether they accept the opinions of these writers or not, the young person and the thinking reader are coming to the libraries for books by Sherwood Anderson, Theodore Dreiser, James Branch Cabell, Marcel Proust, Rebecca West, Jacob Wassermann and other moderns. This applies also to many of the plays which are now published while they are being produced on the New York stage.

O'Neill's *Strange Interlude* has been a leader on our reserve list for a year, and there is still a striking divergence of opinion regarding it. Here, it would seem, is the opportunity for a librarian to err on the side of inclusion, even

though he be accused of pandering to a decadent taste in literature.

We have the usual complaints about these much-discussed authors, but when a reader suggests that a book should be eliminated because he finds one chapter, or even a single paragraph, objectionable we feel that his concern for the other fellow's morals is unnecessarily keen. Just here is the amusing and maddening side of censorship, for the person who objects most strenuously to having certain books in the public library will never admit that he has been contaminated, he is watching out for other people. Such critics have to be reminded that the library is for the whole community, not simply those of tender years, or immature minds; that the sophisticated reader should be considered as well as the lover of simple stories with a happy ending.

The question of duplicating titles in great demand is one which each librarian has to settle for himself. It is discouraging to see library or *If Winter Comes*, but it is aggravating shelves burdened with dozens of *V. V.'s Eyes* to the public to be told that the library has only one copy of an important new novel. We compromise by adding to our duplicate pay collection.

After all is said and done, a large percentage of reading matter today is ephemeral, and if the books have seen active service for a brief period we may discard them without too much moralizing. Whether a library shall have an "inferno" is a matter usually decided by the librarian. For several years this library had a special place to which books unsuited to the open shelves were retired, but when Anatole France, George Moore and Alexandre Dumas began to creep out of sight, the librarian went through the collection, weeded ephemeral books that were already forgotten into the discard and put the others on the shelves of the stack which is open to adults who ask the privilege. Now and then we hear someone lament that the books read today are inferior to those of a generation ago, but judging by the titles which have had the largest number of reserves in our library during the past year I see no cause for alarm. They may not be the choice of the most intelligent readers, neither are they trivial. Here is the list:

Bridge of San Luis Rey, *The Island Within*, *Bismarck* and *Napoleon*, by Ludwig; *Keeping Mentally Fit*, *Mother India*, *Trader Horn*, *Glorious Adventure* and *Royal Road to Romance*, by Halliburton; *Life of Houdini*, *Mussolini's Autobiography* and *John Brown's Body*.

Coming to special subjects, this library has avoided buying those books written for the medical profession and religious books of a controversial sort. There are many titles on health written for the layman by Cabot, Collins, Sadler, Fishbein, Walsh and others, and these circulate steadily. But there is no attempt to provide so-called "doctors' books," though there are occasionally pathetic inquiries for "a book that tells what to do for diabetes," or "how to find out if a person has cancer." A few years ago the library had a great demand for books about nervous ills, and there were continual calls for *Outwitting Our Nerves*, by Jackson; Walton's *Why Worry?* Mitchell's *Self Help for Nervous Women*, etc., but today these rarely go out, and the men and women who were interested in nerves are calling for De Kruif's *Microbe Hunters* and *Hunger Fighters*, and Clendening's *Human Body*.

It is a little harder to select books and authors in religion. We do buy the amazingly popular titles of Bruce Barton, the writings of Dean Inge, Rufus Jones' contributions on the ideals of the Quakers, and various Jewish and Roman Catholic authors. Frequently there is a religious book being read and talked of by people whose views differ widely, yet all find worthy of attention, and it seems fitting that such a work should be found in the public library. Last year *The Christ of the Indian Road*, by Stanley Jones had almost as many reserves as a best seller.

Christian Science publications are given to the library and find a place with books about other religious groups. Not long ago a member of the local church complained because books criticizing that form of belief are placed on the shelves along with the writings of Scientist authors.

A liberal policy on the part of those entrusted with book buying for this library has built up a good working collection. It is worthy of note that even the World War failed to drive *The Nation* from our reading room tables, as was the case in some libraries of the country. We have not escaped criticism, but the policy of showing both sides of a question has been fairly maintained. Thorstein Veblen, Scott Nearing, Upton Sinclair and Harry Elmer Barnes may be seen as well as their more conservative contemporaries. From time to time criticism is leveled at one of an author's titles while the others appear to receive only favorable notice. Two examples of this were Bertrand Russell's *Free Speech and Official Propaganda* and Zechariah Chafee's *Freedom of Speech*.

Sometimes a book which has been objected to disappears, whether carried off by a reader who wishes leisure to consider its merit, or by a self-appointed censor, we cannot say. In many instances, if there were delay in buying a book which draws fire, it might take its place on the shelves practically unnoticed, but the

chances are that the library would soon be a dead one.

This section of the country being literally at the doors of many of the leading American publishers, expects to have books served "hot from the press," and if some orders are not given in advance many important titles are exhausted almost by the day of publication.

To buy promptly the book-of-the-hour on special topics, which are claiming wide attention, and at the same time to see that the library does not fall behind on new editions of standard works and valuable contributions to the more general subjects, calls for quick decisions and watchful waiting. We are frequently helped by readers who keep up with their own special interests and may know when a new book is being written. Social workers, manufacturing experts and teachers of special subjects contribute to our list of book orders. The only "out" in this aid is the danger of getting biased material, or too many text books for a general library.

Someone has said that in New Britain every nationality is represented except the Eskimo. Our library has small collections in twelve languages, besides English, and they help many readers over the period of adjustment to a new country. Europeans are so apt to have a working knowledge of more than one tongue that a Spaniard may easily read Italian, or a Swede read German, while a Russian is likely to be fluent in half a dozen languages. In fact, a man who was taking out a library card for the first time, upon being asked what language he read, replied: "What languages have you here?" and sauntering along the shelves picked out a volume in Polish, one in French and a third in Czech.

The skilled labor required in our factories brings many people who have had educational advantages in their own country to the library. As soon as English is acquired they do more serious general reading than the native American. A still unsatisfied demand is for suitable books by which the adult foreigner may learn to read English. We have experimented with various kinds of primers, guides, etc., only to be told that all have serious faults when examined from the newcomer's point of view. These readers want books on how to become American citizens, on United States history, on manners and customs, description and travel in this country, and they want such books written in forceful style and clear English. The ordinary school, or college, textbook does not appeal to them, and there is too wide a gap between the primers and the readable volumes that require familiarity with the language. To anyone who has worked long in a library where there comes a continual stream of foreign-born men and women eager to take their places as citizens of the United States, it is a constant trial to be able to offer such inadequate help as we do now. Recently a foreign-born reader, making application for a card, asked the desk assistant to suggest a book, and when she tried to get an idea of his special interest she learned that he really wanted a scholarly work on church history. It is probably quite too much to even dream of having books on scientific and technical subjects written for the adult foreigner, yet many factory workers try to find such tools to help them better their job.

A presidential campaign naturally increases the call for books on politics, and while their popularity is brief, it is necessary to have the newest publications. We were annoyed during the recent election period by what seemed an unwarranted delay in getting Kent's *Political Behavior* and the *Histories of the Democratic and Republican Parties* by Minor and Myers respectively. If a library does have books on special subjects at the moment they are called for, it goes a long way toward establishing public confidence in the institution.

Where a single non-fiction book creates an unusual demand it is a question how many copies the library is justified in buying; for example, a dozen or more copies of *Your Money's Worth*, by Chase and Schlink, could have circulated for a short time. That happened to be an inexpensive book, but where the cost runs to ten dollars, as did *The Letters of Walter Hines Page*, the problem is one to test the librarian's acumen.

In an industrial town like New Britain one expects a large demand for scientific and technical books, but it may be a matter of surprise, as it is of gratification, that the public library has an insistent call for books on the fine arts. It would be interesting to know how far this demand has been fostered by the small art gallery in the library building, which in addition to its permanent group of paintings, holds loan exhibits.

Art books, apart from their often prohibitive cost, are a buying problem. Here, more than in some subjects, the librarian should keep ahead of the demand, and also know when to accept suggestions from library patrons. While it is important to have Roger Fry on Cézanne, recent texts with illustrations of the new styles in decoration, and furniture and up-to-date material on commercial art, the public library must also have authoritative interpretations of the older world of art. The statement was recently made in an art magazine that today one out of every seventy-five persons is trying to be an artist. This may sound like gross exaggeration, still the fact remains that here, in a factory town, we have numbers of young per-

sons studying art and looking to the public library to supply the books they cannot buy for themselves.

Biography used to seem a staid and dignified subject, as far as the public library collection was concerned, and only by gift or chance did decadent memoirs find their way to its shelves, and the task of selection was not a heavy one. Today when nearly everyone who can put pen to paper is writing, we have greater variety and need acute powers of discrimination, if our biography section is to be reasonably comprehensive. We must have a mind open to include the high and the low, provided the value is there, and keen to detect those who are being brought to light by zealous students of the obscure. Biography is a close second to fiction in popularity, since Strachey, Guedalla and Ludwig have come among us.

As a rule we do not put non-fiction in our duplicate pay collection, as even books in unusual demand do not circulate enough to pay for their cost. However, two copies of *Père Marquette*, by Agnes Repplier, are moving as freely as the latest novel, at present.

My Life, by Isadora Duncan, and Clare Sheridan's vivid self-portraiture have delighted many of our patrons, in spite of the adverse criticism of some librarians whose literary judgment is well-nigh unquestioned. At a New England group meeting one librarian objected to giving these two authors equal consideration, declaring that Isadora Duncan was a genius, Clare Sheridan only a clever journalist. Consequently, in one public library in this section the former has a place while the latter is excluded.

Travel and adventure, outdoor sports and indoor games have their unfailing devotees. Woe to the library that cannot furnish Harry Franck's latest journeyings and the newest word on contract bridge!

The writing of history has changed as definitely as biography, though perhaps in another direction. The historian is delving deep for accurate knowledge while often the biographer seems to be giving free rein to his imagination regardless of facts. But history is being made vivid for the general reader, as well as truthful, and the cut-and-dried textbook is giving way to readable volumes.

The librarian who wishes to keep up with notable English books is confused. American publishers usually secure the rights for their own English edition and may promise it early, but often months elapse before the book comes out on this side, and then the title may be changed so that one is not sure whether it is the one sought or not.

All these subjects must be found in the right form for the varied kinds of readers who come to the public library of a New England town. Wherefore, can we do better than to follow the advice of that New England pioneer in modern library work, Charles Ammi Cutter, who said: "Select your library, then, as Shakespeare wrote his plays, the highest poetry, the deepest tragedy side by side with the comic and the vulgar. Do not make the regularity, balance of parts, dignity of expression of the French classic drama your model. Imitate a Gothic cathedral. Do not limit your choice to any one degree of good, lest it should be too high for some, too low for others."

Book Buying on the Western Coast

By Albert C. Read

Principal of Order Department, Los Angeles Public Library

THE two great problems confronting all book buyers, whether library or commercial, eastern or western, are service and discounts; but the emphasis on these points and the best methods of attaining them differ greatly. The dealer must place greatest stress on discount, since this is the fundamental principle of a profitable business, for, though his customers demand their books promptly, it is of no great value to supply them unless a profit can be made. Thus, although he sacrifices profits occasionally by paying express on rush orders, he still must emphasize discounts that he may make an average profit.

In the library field we are confronted with a different condition. While we must make our money go as far as possible, we must, first and foremost, furnish service to our patrons, the taxpayers, since it is by their good will that we live and move and have our being. The average citizen who comes up to the desk is far more interested in getting the desired book than in the discount obtained, and to tell him or her that its receipt is delayed two or three weeks to enable it to be shipped in by freight at a lower price will seldom lessen the violent complaint about a book that has been locally displayed for weeks in the book stores, and is-

being reviewed and discussed in clubs and circles.

The relative degree of importance of these two points varies greatly in different communities and under dissimilar conditions. Prompt supplying of new titles is of much less consequence in a small community, and spreading the book appropriation to cover as many titles as possible may be of relatively greater importance; but if the town is fairly close to a large city the clientèle may require the same service given by the large city library. And we must bear in mind that it is the satisfied patrons who vote bonds for the new building, demand increased appropriations from councils, and rise up in wrath at political interference with library affairs.

In obtaining service, which means prompt deliveries of books ordered, far western libraries are faced with the same difficulties with which the dealer has to contend in securing books to sell to his patrons, but, in addition to those, many other obstacles must be met and overcome. The fact that the small town dealer carries such a limited stock, including only a small percentage of the new titles, makes it impossible for librarians to select books by actual examination, so they must of necessity wait for reviews, buy on reputation of author and publisher, A. L. A. approval, or be guided by the selection of the neighboring larger libraries, if any such be available, which in the Far West will not always be the case. The buyer for the large library, while having access to much larger and more complete stocks, is handicapped by the fact that the local stores do not carry sufficient quantity to fill the library demand, or if in stock are frequently unwilling to deplete their shelves to fill orders at library discount, with the probability of losing sales at full price to retail customers.

All of these difficulties are greatly modified or reduced to a minimum if the library is within easy reach of the publishing centers. The smaller library so located may have books sent on approval from the larger jobbers, and quantity orders may be filled over night, or within a couple of days by freight in New England or the Middle West. But the library book-buyer's problem is greater than that of the book dealer, in that we must relay on our orders through a middleman, which involves an immense loss of time, even if our orders are promptly handled. When a four or five page order reaches a dealer doing a large retail business it is probable that at best two or three days will elapse before he is able to select the items from stock to fill the orders, and short-order the remainder from the various publishers, and when his shipments are received he will delay several days more checking and marking his goods before he can bill out the library's orders. Remembering that many of these shorts are held by the publishers until a freight shipment accumulates, this extra week or ten days makes relaying of orders quite exasperating at times. Of course, these difficulties may be removed by using an eastern jobber, and this is done to a considerable extent, but there is the matter of loyalty to home industry and the strong sentiment about spending your money in town, and recognition of the accommodation of the home merchant, who usually does supply many of your urgent needs at some sacrifice of retail trade.

So far as the dealer is concerned, there is a considerable difference between the cost of doing business on the Pacific Coast and in New York or its immediate vicinity, and this matter of carriage cost on his books is not the greatest item involved. Since so long a period is required to secure stock the far western dealer must order in much greater quantity or lose business, thus running a greater risk of overbuying, while the eastern dealer may order only enough of popular titles to supply him a few weeks at a time, and have a large portion of the money in his cash register before his bills are due. Of course, he will be given a slightly shorter discount, but he can do a large part of his business on the publishers' capital, and need not run such great risks of over-buying and taking heavy losses in "plugs."

The question of publishers' discounts, dealers' investment and transportation cost is equally important to the library book-buyer and to the dealer, since the increased cost must be passed on to the library in the form of shorter discount. It is difficult for a western dealer to give within 10 per cent of the jobber's f.o.b. New York prices and show a fair profit for handling. It will probably be a conservative estimate to say that the dealer west of the Rockies must have three times the eastern dealer's investment to do a similar amount of business.

Speaking in terms of transportation, the Pacific Coast is at the lowest estimate six days from the publishing centers by express, twelve days by rail, and four or five weeks by all-water haul, figuring from the time the order is actually in the hands of the publisher until the shipment is received by the dealer. To this must be added the length of time it takes the dealer to make up the order and get it to the publisher, which means two or three days in the air mail, telegraph being impractical except for single items of extreme importance. Now even these delays would be bearable and could be figured on and discounted if all the

rest of the machinery worked smoothly, but such is not the case. There is the shorting of orders, one of the most exasperating of all our troubles, which is the exception rather than the rule. An order for 10 to 100 copies of a book may be filled by delivery of two or more copies from stock, necessitating "red ink cards" showing incomplete order, with double work of handling in order and catalog department. A part of the order for central library and a few of the larger branches is filled, but the great main library clamor and the call at most of the branches must wait until a week or ten days later for another consignment, which was en route when our order was placed, and another two or three weeks later for the balance, and our troubles are over—unless some of the books are "defective," pages missing, pasted in covers upside down or in the wrong cover entirely. All librarians know the grief involved in that one word, "defective."

But now consider the matter of cost from the librarian's angle. If we buy locally, the dealer who supplies us must either be satisfied with a lower profit, or allow less discount than an eastern dealer would give; naturally, he is likely to choose the latter alternative. A book weighing under two pounds will come in by express at fifteen cents, or in lots the average novel will cost about ten to twelve cents each; by rail freight it will cost about seven cents with the two weeks in transit, and by water about half that price. The result of this varying in transportation cost is that shipments are split; of 100 ordered, 25 will be shipped by express, the balance by rail; but reprints and cheap juveniles will come by water, which means shorts are many weeks in arriving. We cannot figure on the shorts from our quarterly quantity reprint orders reaching us in less than ten weeks from writing of orders.

Another of our western troubles is in second-hand buying. It stands to reason that if eastern libraries or dealers read second-hand catalogs promptly, they will always be able to beat us to the most desirable offerings, and our only chance is to telegraph for any really important item in hope that this will not occur to others, but those east of the Mississippi can beat that even if they use the regular mails, provided they act as promptly as we do. The best we can do is to rush the order and hope that the other fellow takes his time, but an examination of the "sold out" reports on our order sheets will show that in many cases we have not overcome this handicap.

Many of the English and continental dealers have recognized the time element, which works against the American book collector, by shipping an edition of their catalogs to this country far enough in advance of home distribution to give buyers on this side of the Atlantic an even chance of having their orders filled, but unfortunately it takes about as long to cross this continent as it does the Atlantic.

And then there is "publication date" to be considered. We frequently receive advance copies and place our orders well before the day of publication, but it is rarely that stock is shipped by the publisher in time to reach the Pacific Coast by the advertised date. One important work of fiction, for instance, was announced for publication March 1 in the *Publishers' Weekly* of Feb. 9, but not even the advance copies for review have reached town on the second day of March. It is in this matter that the publisher could, without loss of profit or discrimination against the home market, be of real assistance to librarians and dealers. Realization of the length of time required to reach this market should result in shipping sufficiently in advance of publication date to reach its destination by that time. In view of past performances it would not seem that the Far West was given the advantage of having their orders shipped in advance of eastern dealers. If delivery from the binder is not early enough to permit fair treatment of the more remote sections, more time for printing and binding should be allowed. The problem may not be as simple of solution as this, but some effort in this direction would help.

It is difficult to leave this question of the western librarian's problems without dwelling upon defectives, which are equally important to librarians and dealers, but again our "distance" from the source of production multiplies our difficulties. Why is a defective book —and is it preventable? This has become such a pressing problem that it cannot longer be ignored. In perfect fairness it should be stated that this is a common complaint against practically all publishers, and that the exasperation of librarians and dealers is waxing very strong. At a recent meeting of the Los Angeles booksellers it was discussed, but the few publishers' representatives present, not being authorized to speak for their houses, could only explain that it was regrettable but unavoidable. No one has ever checked up on an edition so far as records show, but judging from the quantity reported it would be interesting to secure accurate statistics on an important book. It is not infrequent to have four or five copies of one book returned for replacement, and yet it seems probable that only a small percentage are reported, as many people will skip over a duplicated or missing section rather than take the trouble of returning. Many times a library

copy has been read more than a dozen times before being turned in as incomplete, and in more than one case a year has elapsed and a book circulated fifty or more times before it is reported. Missing and duplicated pages must be the fault of careless work. The expense to publishers in replacing books and paying expressage both ways must run into startling figures and it would seem that efficiency in this detail might be demanded of the binder. It would result in a saving of money to the publisher and be appreciated by everyone.

The Acquisition and Care of Special Collections

By Mary Rudd Cochran

Reference Librarian of the University of Cincinnati

SHE hung up a threadbare coat. "I promised my friends that I would buy a new coat, this winter," she said, "But I can't. I just discovered an exquisite piece of embroidery—unlike anything in my collection—I spent all my money for it." That is the spirit of the collector, ready to sacrifice even necessities for the great joy of one interesting addition to the treasure store.

Almost everybody can collect books and almost everybody, during his lifetime, does collect some. In these days of free textbooks, children grow up without buying their own—but to offset this lack, department stores and five-and-ten-cent stores vie with bookstores to supply them with books for entertainment. Architects and interior decorators tell their clients (truly) that book shelves laden with books add immensely to the beauty and charm of homes. And just as there are agents to cater to collectors of postage-stamps and antique furniture, so there are dealers to help men of means to secure first editions and autographed copies and *de luxe* volumes.

However, merely acquiring books is not making a "special collection," at any rate when books arrive by gift or by inheritance. For the purpose of this paper we will call a "special collection" a collection with some unifying quality. The unifying quality may be subject, as chess, slavery, or musical biography; or language, as a collection of books in Lithuanian; date of publication; publisher; previous ownership, particularly books bearing signatures or bookplates of famous people; unusual beauty; or unusual size. I know one man who is collecting little books, with three inches as his limit. He has had a special bookcase built for them.

The value of a special collection depends upon two factors. First, inclusiveness. For instance, it might be possible to own all books published about nursing or child psychology or all editions of one book. Second comes rarity of the items. For examples, let me mention the man who gathered a library on modern business methods—his books were well selected, even cataloged, but when he was in financial straits and tried to sell them, no library wanted them because they merely duplicated previous purchases. But my aunt, who kept her Cincinnati May Festival programs for fifty years, was able to dispose of them for a good price, because only one other complete file was known.

Who make these special collections?

First, men and women whose collecting instinct is strong. Some collect only books, but those who collect other objects usually buy books about those objects. The United States Playing Card Company bought a wonderful collection of old playing cards and with it the collector's library on cards and gaming. Or the collector of other objects may inspire members of his family to imitation. Our friend of the glass and pewter will show us her husband's book-lined den, with the explanation "He had to have a hobby too, so he is collecting editions of Walton's 'Compleat Angler'."

Then there is the collector who collects from necessity: the writer, the lecturer, the editor, the illustrator, the composer, the doctor, the lawyer, the inventor, the preacher, the teacher—and others who use books as tools and must have these conveniently near their desks. Before the days of large public and university, medical and legal libraries, the necessity was greater than it is today. My grandfather, teaching science in an Ohio college in the middle of last century, on a salary of eight hundred dollars a year, nevertheless built up a library of several hundred volumes.

What will become of all these collections? That is a question each collector is continually asking himself. He loves his books or his etchings or his snuff-boxes or his warming-pans, and he would like to have them kept together and be appreciated. He knows how few members of his family or of his social circle really care for them. He wonders if this museum or that library will give them respectful attention. If he has wealth, he may found and endow an institution to perpetuate his collection and his name—wealth but not neces-

sarily great wealth, for the Lloyd Library, started as a library for a drug firm, provided with a separate building and a staff as it grew in size and usefulness, finally was endowed by the brothers who started it. If the collector is poor, he may know that his family will be obliged to sell his books for what they will bring. If he has neither wealth nor poverty, and if he has faith in the curators of some institution, he may write that name in his will—or even make a gift of the collection during his lifetime.

Or immediately after his death, his heirs may present the collection to some institution, or friends may buy the collection and give it to a library. This sometimes happens in the case of a beloved teacher, whose books are purchased by alumni for the college. Or some generous man may give the college money with which to buy such volumes. Many a college library has acquired valuable collections because benefactors were found when needed.

I find myself falling into the college habit of expecting some one else to step forward in an emergency—but why not have a portion of the book fund set aside to meet the emergency? Or why not, if an unusual opportunity comes to enrich the library, convince the authorities that some other emergency fund should be diverted to this purpose?

Now for some practical questions! How are we to know who are collecting and what they are collecting? What steps can we take to acquire their books, some day, for our college or university libraries?

Occasionally the newspapers or local magazines tell us of a fellow-citizen who is collecting, but the majority of collectors are modest and retiring. Their intimate friends know, their fellow-hunters know, the book-dealers know; and next to them the library ought to know. For many a collector finds his way to the library for information, to verify authors, to consult price lists, to examine copies of books within his reach, or simply to chat a few moments with sympathetic listeners. This is particularly true of the novice. Have you ever had a student, or a young member of the staff, timidly unwrap a book and eagerly look for your approval or your kindly criticism of his purchase? This is a golden opportunity—he is a potential collector and a potential benefactor, if he finds encouragement and helpful advice at his college library.

The alumni, with their loyalty and pride in their institution, are they awake to the desire of the librarian to build up a strong, rich collection? Do they drop in to talk about books? Do home-coming events include visits to familiar reading-rooms and stacks? Do they think of us when they see fine collections? Some do. We know to our regret that one of our fellow-citizens has promised to give his collection of books and rare pamphlets, of great local interest, to the distant college from which his sons graduated. Did that collector receive encouragement and help from that college? Or did his sons persuade him that their librarian and faculty would show more appreciation and give better care to his treasures, than the local college, local public library, or the local (and disappointed) historical society?

That brings up the question, how far can the college librarian, and members of the staff, go in the way of cultivating the friendship of book-lovers? Perhaps we are too timid in making friends, or in letting them feel our interest. Perhaps we wait for them to invite us to their libraries, when they are eager for us to hint for invitations. Really, book collectors love to show their books (and it has been my experience, that several individuals take pleasure in collecting librarians). We might even be able to help by notifying them of opportunities that come to our attention, to secure unusual titles.

Collectors wish to be assured that their choice possessions will be handled with care and good faith. One collection, recently willed to our library, came as a surprise through the influence of a friend of the university. We understand that the owner was loath to give his books to a college because he feared that rude students would deface the lovely pages with pencil marks. We can be thankful that he never watched rude library assistants carding and shelving books with more speed than tenderness. We can say in college libraries, as truthfully as they do in public libraries, that it is in the power of the youngest and humblest employee to make or mar the library in the opinion of a visitor.

Intense love for their books is responsible for the conditions some donors make. This collection must be kept together, perhaps be kept in this bookcase. These books must be shelved in the reading room. These books are to be used in the library building. As far as within our power let us prevent conditions with gifts. But, having accepted the conditions, we must observe these scrupulously. Perhaps I say this because I come from a family of lawyers, perhaps because I live in Cincinnati, but whichever it may be, the strictest adherence to legal obligation has been impressed upon my mind. Those of you who are familiar with Cincinnati remember Fountain Square. Some of you may have noticed at one end of the esplanade, a queer little booth, with shelves protected by a canopy. Once a year flowers or oranges are sold here. Why? Because the property was deeded to the city for a "market"

and jealous heirs will seize that property if the city lets a year pass without using it for market purposes. And down by the river is a wide space known as the "public landing," a gift to the city in the heyday of steamboats. Now railroads want concessions. But the moment the city permits a rail to be laid, heirs will seize that property. It is valuable now and growing more valuable. So are our rare books growing more valuable. If we do not live up to our agreements, heirs may arise to claim library property.

One word of warning about manufacturing conditions. A special collection in our library was understood by the staff and marked in every book "not to circulate." But upon re-reading the deed of gift, we found that no such condition existed. It might be well for all of us to reread all our deeds of gift—we may find things we ought to do as well as things we need not do.

If this ghost of a jealous heir does not frighten us, there is a stronger objection to carelessness in respecting conditions, and that is the effect upon prospective givers. Rumor starts quickly, travels where it pleases, and rumor of bad faith may reach a would-be benefactor at a most unfortunate moment. One library lost a file of transactions of learned societies, deposited with the condition that the library pay for the binding. The librarian tried to keep faith, but the budget committee, annually, cut out the item for extra binding. When the truth was known, the library lost the files.

On the other hand, some libraries take satisfaction in displaying their gifts, building special display cases, even setting aside whole rooms for valuable collections.

A disadvantage of separating a special collection from other books on the subject is the lack of convenience in use. The scholar working in the stacks or the staff member searching for material, must look in two or more places, and is likely to overlook one. If the library should happen to acquire other special collections on the same subject, the difficulty would be multiplied. Assigning separate rooms has added disadvantages. Either the rooms must be locked, which delays access to the books, or must be manned, at continual expense. As for display cases, their power to attract depends in no small measure, upon frequency of change of exhibit. Permanent exhibits do not interest visitors and do consume valuable space. Also, if the building is not fireproof and burglar-proof, it may be advisable to keep volumes of extraordinary value with other treasures in vaults.

Whenever possible, it is wise to have a friendly interview with the prospective giver, so that he will understand the librarian's viewpoint. Probably he can be convinced that a special book-plate will mark his books sufficiently. The submission of a sketch for such a book-plate may please him. Or he might be satisfied with an appropriate sign above the shelves or at the entrance to the alcove in which his books are arranged.

From other angles an interview with the collector would be interesting, the history of his collecting and any unusual experiences might well be written, items of great value listed, and his suggestions for further development of the collection be noted. For the library that accepts his books, certainly expects to increase the collection.

So far we have spoken of special collections made by others. Now let us discuss special collections built up within the library itself. Many of these exist because some subject is emphasized in the curriculum and the authorities have approved expenditures along that line. Some owe their existence to the enthusiasm of one person, a professor or librarian, who knows the literature of a special subject and is constantly on the alert to develop the collection. Some exist because funds have been given and invested to bring a steady income to develop the special line. For instance, devoted pupils of one teacher raised a sum for a memorial, to buy current literature in German and French. Many of you can tell of similar funds, some small indeed, but if the subject is limited, even a small income will produce in time an interesting special collection.

I wonder if we are keeping in mind and taking advantage of every opportunity to add to our resources in this way. Friends who cannot endow a chair or create a scholarship, often can give a few hundred dollars as a memorial, to keep a steady flow into the library of books on the subject closest to the heart of the one who has gone. Such gifts need not be memorials, for a living giver can enjoy the knowledge that his money is enriching the library, especially if we tell him what books we are buying or what books are proving pleasurable or profitable to students.

In asking for endowment funds for special collections, we must not be too zealous, but must cooperate with other departments and officials. It would be too bad for us to secure a fund for the library when the trustees had hoped to secure from our philanthropist, a more important gift for some other work of the institution. But we, or some one else on the campus, might happily suggest the fund for a special collection in the library, as an appropriate gift of students, as a gift in honor of a loved dean or professor, or as a farewell gift at graduation.

The Bibliographical Tour of 1928

By Theodore Wesley Koch

Librarian, Northwestern University

IX—*The Vatican Library (Continued)*

Work of Leo X

While still Cardinal, Leo X displayed great zeal in the collecting of books and manuscripts, especially those with rich illuminations. In 1508 he succeeded in regaining the valuable family library, the Medici collection, which the Florentines had confiscated in 1494 and sold to the monastery of San Marco. The library was transferred to Rome and installed in the Cardinal's palace at S. Eustachio, where it was freely accessible to all scholars, even when the Cardinal himself was there. This was quite unprecedented liberality.

Under the patronage of Leo X, Rome became more than ever famous as a center of letters. "From all parts," wrote Cardinal Riario in 1515 to Erasmus at Rotterdam, "men of letters are hurrying to the Eternal City, their common country, their foster-mother and patroness." Leo X enforced the regulations of Sixtus IV for the Vatican Library, and engaged as librarian the eloquent Inghirami, known as the Cicero of his age. Leo sent emissaries to all outlying countries, even Scandinavia and the Orient, in the hope of securing additional manuscripts by purchase or by copying, but in this he was by no means as successful as Nicholas V had been.

Among the emissaries sent out with these commands were Agostino Beazzano, Angelo Arcimboldi, Johann Heitmers and Francesco de Rossi. Leo explains in a letter to the last mentioned that he considers it one of his more urgent duties to increase the number of copies of ancient authors in order that, under his pontificate, "Latinity may flourish once more." Johann Heitmers, an ecclesiastic from Liége, when sent on a manuscript-hunting mission in 1517, was furnished with a letter of introduction from the Pope, which said: "From the beginning of our pontificate we have, by the help of God, and for His honor and glory, spared neither pains nor money to discover valuable treasures of ancient literature, for the profit as well as the honor of virtuous and especially learned men." Among the bibliophiles who spent their lives in long journeys in search for manuscripts, no one was more expert in this than Fausto Sabeo, who had earned the title of the "book hunter." The Pope made use of him, instructing him to search abbeys, cloisters, parish houses and private libraries. This learned Sabeo was often seen tramping through Italy, France, Germany and Greece, smelling out some unedited work. In these journeys he suffered fatigue, discomforts, dangers and great vicissitudes, but the sight of a manuscript made him forget all. He thought only of the joy he would feel when presenting his treasures to the Pope.

Leo had few scruples as to how he secured the treasures he coveted for the Vatican Library. In 1515 the first six books of the Annals of Tacitus were published by Filippo Beroaldo from a manuscript in the Vatican, which had been abstracted from the Monastery of Corvey, and after passing through many hands had come into the possession of the Pope. In a letter which the Pope entrusted to Heitmers, he speaks of the abstraction without any hesitation, and adds: "We have sent a copy of the revised and printed book in a beautiful binding to the Abbot and his monks, that they may place it in their library as a substitute for the one taken from it. But in order that they may understand that the purloining has done them far more good than harm, we have granted them for their church a plenary indulgence."

At the end of Beroaldo's edition of Tacitus the following encouragement is given to further search for manuscripts: "In the name of Leo X great rewards are promised to those who send him ancient writings which have not yet been made known." The right of reprinting is reserved by the Pope in a passage in which he says that he has conceived it to be his duty to foster especially literature and the fine arts, "for, from our earliest youth we have been thoroughly convinced that, next to the knowledge and true worship of the Creator, nothing is better or more useful for mankind than such studies, which are not only an adornment and a standard of human life, but are also of service in every circumstance. In misfortune they console us, in prosperity they confer joy and honor, and without them man would be robbed of all social grace and culture. The security and extension of these studies seem to demand two conditions: on the one hand, they require a sufficient number of learned and scholarly men, and, on the other, an unlimited supply of first-rate books. . . . As regards the acquisition of books, we give God thanks that in the present instance we have a further opportunity of rendering useful service to our fellow men."

Yet in spite of the Pope's extraordinary ef-

forts, as Ludwig Pastor remarks, the additions to the Vatican were not so large as might have been expected. "The golden age for the acquirement of new manuscripts was over; the competition of the printers proved an obstacle." Leo X gave his own Greek codices to the Vatican Library, bringing the total number of books and manuscripts up to 4070 (as against 3650 under Sixtus IV) and making it the richest manuscript collection in the world.

Collectors

The learned Orsini was desirous of offering his entire collection of books, manuscripts, medals and *objets d'art* to Philip II, who was at that time gathering the treasures that form the main attraction of the Escorial. Orsini had requested his friend Granvelle, the prime minister at Madrid, to speak of his wishes in the matter to Arias Montaño, the King's librarian. Granvelle knew that the Cardinals Sirleto and Caraffa had planned to interest Gregory XIII in its acquisition, and he advised Orsini to await the decision of the Pope.

"I should be much more content," wrote Granvelle, "to see your collections remain at Rome. I have sometimes spoken to you of my regret that so many ancient statues have been taken away and are today scattered throughout Europe. If all this remained in Rome it would be the public school of the world and scholars and artists of all sorts would gather there."

In the beginning of May, 1581, the Pope decided on the acquisition of the Orsini library, which accorded with his large schemes for the Vatican. On June 13, 1581, Granvelle wrote to Orsini that he had read with great pleasure of the decision of the Pope to annex to the Vatican the books which Orsini had collected with so much care and skill. "We must see to it," says Granvelle, "that this universal school be enriched with everything that can draw scholars there and serve them." While he was in sympathy with the projects of the Spanish king for the Escorial, he much preferred to see Orsini's library and art treasures remain at Rome, where they would be appreciated more than they would be in Spain, "where few people take pleasure in these things and where those who appreciate them are still more rare."

Shortly afterward Orsini was appointed Greek reviser at the Vatican, but the final decision in regard to his library was not made for some time. Meanwhile he had received other proposals in regard to his library. The Grand Duke of Tuscany offered him titles and honors. Upon learning of this, Granvelle wrote Orsini and urged him to reserve all for the Pope, at the same time writing letter after letter to Cardinal Sirleto, dwelling on the pains which Orsini had taken in aiding the plans of the Pope, in the revision of the Greek Bible, and in his work on the decrees of the Council of Trent. He pointed out that Orsini had to think of his health, that he already had the infirmities of age and was feeling the fatigue due to his arduous labor. These letters were shown to the Pope (as the writer hoped they would be), and as a result Gregory XIII granted Orsini a pension of 200 ducats and promised him remunerative employment along various lines. The pension was a sort of interest on the capital value of Orsini's library, but the library itself remained in Orsini's possession during the rest of his life. An inventory of the books was made, signed by Orsini, with his seal attached, and the owner contracted to bequeath his precious volumes to the Vatican. In this way the library received 413 manuscripts and an extensive collection of printed books. Of the manuscripts 30 were Italian, 270 Latin and 113 Greek. This brought the total number of Greek manuscripts up to 1400.

Paul V (1605-1621) presented 212 Greek and Latin manuscripts. During his pontificate Silvarezza turned over 30 of the codices from the Bobbio monastery, 100 manuscripts came from the house of Altemps, 83 were purchased from the estate of Prospero Podiani, 25 (Coptic) from the estate of Raimondo, and the Vatican also acquired the collection which Cardinal Pole had brought together.

Urban VIII (1623-1644) added 39 parchment codices and transferred numerous volumes from the Ethiopian Hospice, bringing the inventory up to 6026 Latin and 1566 Greek manuscripts. To this period belongs the transfer of the Heidelberg Library to the Vatican. The collection originated in the private libraries of Marsilius von Inghen and Konrad von Gelnhausen, and it grew rapidly through the confiscation of the monastic library at Lorsch, the acquisition of manuscripts from the Cathedral Library at Mainz, the oriental collection of Postel and the library of Ulrich Fugger of Augsburg. These collections, with the library of the Count Palatine Ottheinrich, were the nucleus of the so-called Palatine Library, which contained in the neighborhood of 3500 manuscripts and many printed works when the Elector Maximilian of Bavaria captured Heidelberg in 1623, confiscated the library and presented it to Pope Gregory XV (1621-1623). The librarian, Leone Allacci, was sent to Heidelberg to look after the transfer of the collections to the Vatican, which was not actually accomplished until the reign of Urban VIII. By the terms of the Treaty of Paris

(1815), 38 of these manuscripts were returned to Heidelberg.

Pius VII presented 852 manuscripts in 1816, which helped the Vatican to retain its leading position among the manuscript libraries of the world. Alexander VII (1655-1667) took over the famous collection of the Dukes of Urbino, comprising 1767 Latin and Italian, 165 Greek and 128 Oriental manuscripts and a large collection of printed books, which were turned over to the University of Rome as a nucleus for its library, which, in recognition of this generous gift, is still called the Biblioteca Alessandrina.

To Leo XIII must be given much credit for the new life that came into the administration of the Vatican in the second half of the nineteenth century. Many of the printed books had become almost inaccessible. The overflow of new accessions had to be stored in one of the Borgia apartments; and when Pope Leo decided to have these state rooms restored, it was necessary to move the books. The Armory under the Sistine Hall was consequently cleared, and a consulting library of printed books established there. The increase in the amount of shelf room sufficed for only a comparatively short time, and Pius X found it necessary to transfer to the library the space that had been occupied by the Vatican Press.

Classification and Housing of Manuscripts

The manuscript collection is divisible into two general classes—the closed, or historical, and the open collections. To the first class belong those which came to the library as units and are still preserved as such. By open collections are meant those to which new accessions are made, and which do not form a complete collection in themselves. There are 36 closed and 16 open collections. Those in the open collections are known under the general name of "Codices Vaticani," while the closed collections are named after their source, or according to the language in which they are written. The largest number of additions is being made to the Latin, Greek and Oriental manuscripts. There are between eight and ten thousand manuscripts in the two Barberini archives. The total number of manuscripts in the Vatican Library is somewhere in the neighborhood of 60,000. The catalogs of manuscripts fill 170 volumes and are stored in the workroom, where they are easily accessible. The publication of these catalogs was authorized by Leo XIII, but the work of revision has been so extended as to result in almost an entirely new inventory. Twenty-two volumes have already been issued covering various collections in the library. The books in the Palatine collection are included within the scope of the catalog undertaking.

The manuscripts were formerly housed in the painted wooden cabinets distributed along the walls of the halls of the library. The greatest care is now exercised in handling these manuscripts, and there have been established eight fireproof magazines into which the manuscripts have been transferred. A part of the old reading room has been used for the magazines, the librarian's office and two other rooms. The change was made possible by transferring the Vatican printing office to new quarters. As the printing office occupied quarters immediately below the old reading room, and adjoining the rooms in which the Barberini Library is housed, these quarters were easily connected with the library. A new reading room was placed on the ground floor and a water-power elevator installed for taking manuscripts from the rooms immediately overhead. This arrangement gave greater security and convenience, and the manuscripts were made more accessible for the assistants in the reading room. The new reading room is close to the reference library and contains almost twice as many desks as the old reading room. The remodeling of the rooms was completed early in 1912, and the transfer of manuscripts was then begun. The two Barberini archives are now on the third floor of the new book rooms.

The department devoted to the repair of manuscripts attained under Father Ehrle a very important part in the economy of the library. Some years ago Father Ehrle instituted a series of investigations looking to the discovery of methods of preventing damage and decay. Beginning in 1896 all new processes were tested in this "manuscript clinic" at the Vatican, and new methods were developed. At the suggestion of Father Ehrle an international congress was held in 1898 at the Monastery of St. Gall, Switzerland, for the exchange of ideas and experiences. As a result of this meeting, generous support was given the "manuscript clinic" that it might carry on extensive researches. The Vatican Library has not only done a great deal of repair work on its own manuscripts, but has also restored famous manuscripts belonging to other institutions, as, for example, the Vercelli manuscript of the Bible, which has suffered much. The Vatican Library made extensive repairs on fifty Coptic manuscripts belonging to the J. Pierpont Morgan Library.

Collection of Printed Books

The collection of printed books is in the neighborhood of half a million volumes. Only

such of these as are of value in the study of manuscripts are ordinarily available for the use of readers; the others are supposedly reserved for the use of Vatican officials—but by application to the proper authority, a reader may secure the use of practically any book in the library of which he may have serious need. The printed books are divided into two large classes: (1) the general collection, and (2) the consulting or reference library. New accessions are classed in the first division unless they deal with the subject of manuscripts, in which case they may be added to the reference collection. In addition to the open *fondi* (the general collection and the reference library), there are what are known as closed *fondi*—the Barberini, Palatine and Zeladi collections, and also the *prima raccolta*, containing all the books acquired by the Vatican before approximately 1620 or 1630, when the present *raccolta generale* was created to contain all future acquisition. The number of rare and valuable works contained in these collections is much larger in proportion to the total than is found in any other library of the same size—save possibly the Bodleian.

The present Pope, Pius XI, who as Monsignor Achille Ratti became so favorably known to the library world through his work at the Ambrosian Library at Milan, and then as prefect of the Vatican Library, has been instrumental in adding more than 80,000 printed books within the last seven years and almost 6500 manuscripts, and has been largely responsible for the modern equipment which has been recently installed. "Efficiently helped by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and fortified by American experience," wrote Monsignor Tisserant recently, "the Vatican Library is more anxious than ever to make its treasures accessible to world scholars. Besides the extensive cataloging of manuscripts, which will still require a long time, it began in 1927, a cumulative index of all its manuscripts; a catalog of its incunabula, which, it is hoped, will be printed in a few years, and a dictionary catalog on cards containing all the books of its various collections."

In addition to adopting the international size of catalog card and using as many printed cards from the Library of Congress as may be had, other titles will be printed at Washington or by the Vatican Press. There will be a dictionary card catalog for the public as well as an official catalog for the staff and a classed catalog. There will be also special card catalogs for the books in the reference room. The adoption of the L. C. system of classification and of its subject headings called for certain modifications, for example, in Canon Law.

A Grade School Library Given by Parents

By Florence H. Tredick

Elmer Avenue School, Schenectady, N. Y.

THREE years ago the parents of the children in the Elmer Avenue School created what is now known as the Elmer Avenue School Library. The principles which they had in mind were three: First that the library should acquaint children with books that open up interesting fields for browsing. Half the money was set aside at the start for stories from *Mother Goose* to *Ivanhoe*. Second, they felt that the inquiring mind which turns to authority for information should receive encouragement. Books of first rank in travel and science and some source books in history were selected, most of them well illustrated. Third, they felt that picture books which would train the eye unconsciously in form and line and would give a feeling of intimacy with children of other countries and perhaps inspire a child to study a language other than his own would be valuable. And so books by Leslie Brooke, Walter Crane, Arthur Rackham and from Bohemia, Scandinavia, Italy, Russia, Japan, and Czechoslovakia were chosen.

The money for the library was collected by the fathers of the children in a house-to-house canvass. Each family was asked to give a dollar, but contributions of fifty cents and twenty-five cents were received. Only about $240 of the money solicited was spent for equipment, but a really lovely place was made of the drabbish tan classroom by the use of bright colors. The children contributed to the wall decoration with two friezes of stories, and pictures by famous artists were placed on the walls.

The parents haven't stopped giving. The year after the library was started $400 more was given and in Book Week of this year they are planning another house-to-house canvass to raise $500 for the expansion of the reference facilities and to make possible the enrichment of the reading program for the first three

grades. To encourage such enterprise on the part of the parents the Board of Education gave the services of a full-time librarian, and have not only added to the book supply, but also have given supplies and cared for the rebinding of books.

Reference work of the infinite number of questions of unrelated details, which somehow the librarian molds together into a whole, is only one division of the day's activities. If you were to ask a librarian at any given time—day, week or hour—to tell what she is doing, she would in all probability gasp with the walrus in *Alice in Wonderland*,

"The time has come . . .
To talk of many things—
Of shoes, and ships, and sealing wax,
Of cabbages, and kings—
And why the sea is boiling hot,
And whether pigs have wings."

and she does provide all these things. Shoes for the fifth grade who are studying New England; ships for the fourth grade studies on fisheries; sealing wax for Christmas gifts for parents; pictures of cabbages for fifth grade booklets; kings, several grades at once, not forgetting costumes for the Cinderella play; boiling hot seas for the boy who is interested in science; and all about pigs, including why they have or have not wings, for the first grade farm unit.

The rest of the day's activities are, leaving out all problems of administration, perhaps divided into three parts, circulation of books, pupil committees, and work with classes as units.

The children may borrow books from the library for fifteen minutes before school in the morning, for fifteen minutes at noon, after school, during their class library period, or during the two periods given daily to individual reading and reference work. Last year 13,950 books were loaned, non-fiction and fiction being approximately equal throughout the year with non-fiction slightly in the lead. The books that each child takes out this year are being entered on cards with the reading-age of the child written at the top. This is not recommended as library practice, but an amazing amount can be told about a child from even two months' free reading choices.

As much student help as possible is had. In a little book the record of each child's work and time is kept. At first, five children from the sixth grade work a month in five positions, such as checking, slipping books, etc. Then they teach their work to five successors and supervise the work until they are sure the new committee is efficient. So the work progresses until by the end of the term 25 children from the fifth and sixth grades have had experience in library work.

Each grade comes to the library for one period a week to hear stories as a lure to reading, to talk about books and authors, for instruction in the use of the library, or for reference work as a class-unit, as when the sixth grade recently gathered material for a booklet on Southwestern Asia. Others, besides the sixth grades, do reference work in their class library period. The first grade recently made a scrap-book of animals on the farm, showing how each animal helped the farmer, and the second grade last year made a list in two library hours of forty bird stories and poems. Aside from this, classes come to read for pleasure. The older children are given thirty minutes in which to read during nearly every library period. Sometimes a short report is required later in the classroom about what they have read. Each month the teachers and librarian record the individual reading progress of each child and a book report or note is made by each child in his library notebook. Two periods a day are given over to work with individual students, in small groups, who are sent by their teachers to look up answers to definite questions connected with school work, or for independent investigation and research work.

In odd moments, the librarian tries to find out by conference with the teachers what is going on in the classroom and how the library can enrich the study of curriculum units. Many of the teachers send the topics they expect to study next to the library and some come in and with the help of the librarian make out a bibliography of the material required. The material is then sent to the classroom for a week, possibly two, and includes not only books but clippings, pictures, and victrola records. This material is kept in the library corner of the classroom.

The Contribution of the Library to College Teaching

By William Warner Bishop

Librarian, University of Michigan

MODERN college teaching is based upon the laboratory method. Instruction merely through recitations, lectures and single textbooks is generally obsolete, particularly in those branches which are of more modern growth, save for very elementary and introductory courses. No college president would hark back to the cheap and simple days of "fourteen weeks in chemistry." Instead he points with deserved pride to an elaborate and well equipped series of laboratories for biology, chemistry, physics and astronomy. The laboratory method has captured teaching of collegiate grade.

The social sciences and the humanities find their laboratories in the library. It provides the means of experimentation, testing, comparison and abstracting as truly as do the work bench, the anatomist's table, the microscope and museum specimens. This fact is too little understood. "Books" have too often meant "text books" to the unreflecting. Books as the vehicles of training in method—the chief goal of college teaching—have been but imperfectly apprehended by administrators, trustees and the elder statesmen of many faculties. But the fact remains that only in books organized and administered in libraries can the students and teachers of such subjects as philosophy, history, literature, economics and political science find the true and vital means of study. History, for instance—what modern professor will try to teach, say, the history of the American Revolution, on the basis of a text alone, or even by the lecture method without texts or collateral reading? One has but to pose the question to answer it. It isn't done. Just as no teacher of chemistry expects his students to have at home their private and individual laboratory collections of apparatus, reagents, gas, water and electricity, so but few, if any, professors of French literature can hope to have students who own in their private libraries full sets of encyclopedias, literary and critical journals, dictionaries, the great standard texts of French authors, and the lesser lights of modern days. He is lucky if they own a single French-English dictionary and the texts they are studying in class. He and they must perforce depend on the college library not alone for that perspective which will give a course or an author proper setting, but even for the means of daily study and recitation, to say nothing of the preparation of papers and reports.

The use of the library for what may well be called—for want of a more fitting term—the laboratory method in teaching the humanities and the social sciences has certain necessary implications which demand attention — and money.

First, the supply of books must be adequate and modern. There must be books which are sources and other books which are more special treatises on topics taught. There must be at least a fair number of files of technical journals and the more general reviews. The collection of works, not necessarily the concern of any one department of instruction, must be not only large but interesting as well.

This is easy to say—but costly of both money and time. The tendency has been of late years to buy rather full numbers of copies of a few books definitely required to be read in connection with certain courses, instead of a greater number of books on the larger field. That is, "required reading" has been very much more a requirement rather that certain chapters in certain books be read and reported on than an obligation to familiarize oneself with the literature of a topics under study in a course. There are happily signs of a change in this attitude. But that change—if it becomes at all general—is going to require far larger collections of books for required and general reading.

What is an adequate supply of books for a good undergraduate college? This is one of the riddles which is continually set for librarians—but no one knows the answer. There might well be some definite ratio between books and students, were it not for several factors which interfere with establishing such a fixed rule. The fact that in many lines—philosophy, for instance—few books (other than class-room texts) become obsolete with the years is one consideration. Another difficulty in establishing a ratio is shown by the fact that no college faculty has yet protested that the college library is too large for effective teaching. The necessity for duplication on a fairly large scale to supply enough copies of important books is another disturbing element. Ten copies of each of 100 titles make 1000 volumes, but for the purposes of a ratio

* Reprint from the *Bulletin of the Association of American Colleges*, November, 1928, now out of print.

they are but 100. Certain minimum standards can doubtless be set, depending on the number of departments of instruction, the presence or absence of other libraries, the number of students, and the nature of the subjects taught. Pure mathematics, for example, may be well cared for with 1000 volumes in some colleges, with but little duplication and less cost of replacement, while English literature in the same college should have at least 6000 volumes—not including duplicates for class use. A well selected library of 50,000 volumes will perhaps suffice for the needs of sound teaching in a college of not over 500 students. This number does not include duplicates, which are, of course, comparable with consumable supplies in a laboratory. But emphasis must be placed on selection, on the character of the collection, and on provision both for duplicates and for replacement. Fifty thousand volumes alone do not make any standard, as any librarian knows.

In considering the suitable minimum, we should not lose sight of the fact that the natural and physical sciences, as well as the technological branches, need libraries just as much as they need laboratories. They cannot do without either.

But an adequate provision of books calls also, as a necessary corollary, for a serviceable and well planned building. Such a building must be laid out with a view to intensive use as a laboratory by large and growing numbers of students. That means adequate study halls and reading rooms, a sufficient number of seats even at crowded hours, perhaps even an individual desk for each college student in the library itself. It means also direct access to the library's shelves on the part of all students—of course, with a proper provision for caring for rare and valuable books. There is no question whatever that direct access to reference books is not enough. No college library—as distinct from huge university libraries—need place any bar between the student and all the ordinary books in that library. No other single factor is likely to be more important in forming and molding the student. To deny it to him is to shut him off from direct contact with the best the college can offer him.

The laboratory view of the college library demands an adequate, professionally trained staff of librarians with full academic standing for its various grades of service. Librarianship has made remarkable strides in America in the past fifty years. Colleges and universities have been far slower than cities and governments to recognize this fact, to reward proven ability and talent, and to admit the non-teaching staff generally to full academic fellowship. The result has been rather painfully apparent in the character of much of the library service in our colleges. Modern methods of classification and cataloging and the full use of bibliographic tools, now provided in such large measure, insure in the hands of a competent staff a definite and detailed service to readers, making quickly available the contents of large masses of books formerly too often mere ornaments on the shelves. Books and a building alone will not and do not make an effective library. Without trained and enthusiastic librarians, the college library will never make its full contribution to college work.

Valuable as the college library may be as an aid to teaching, it has an even higher educational function. The college library is one of the surest means to acquiring culture. Hours spent in it on an independent or directed search for knowledge have results far beyond the measure of grades or efficiency tests. Who does not recall the discovery for oneself of books which have marked stages in one's intellectual—and even moral—life? I would rather turn a boy loose in a good library of the literature of our English tongue than have him recite or write papers on the English drama, the modern novel, or the poetry of the Anglo-Saxons. If he fails to come from college with the reading habit ingrained in him, he has missed about the best thing that college can give him. And how shall he form the habit of discriminating and judicial choice of books, if he be not exposed to books in large numbers?

And lastly, one of the soundest contributions of the college library to teaching is its aid to maintaining the vitality of the teaching done by the faculty. To this end the college library needs to be far better and far larger than very many of them have been in the past. No real teacher is likely to do his best work when continually deprived of the means of prosecuting his own researches, of following his own studies. If he must journey far and frequently for this end, his routine work of teaching cannot but show his lack of progress. If he have at hand daily and hourly at least a large part of the books he needs, his mental attitude toward his work is likely to be healthier, sounder and happier. The college library can not only contribute to teaching undergraduates—it can feed and nourish the teacher himself.

Public Libraries and Pay Collections

A Symposium

In decided contrast with the open shelves in most of our public libraries of today is the custom of chaining valuable manuscrips to long tables in the Vatican library. This custom is also in use at the Laurentian Library in Florence. The manuscripts were occasionally loaned to prominent individuals, but the frequent failure to return books was the cause of a new rule being established in 1480, requiring a deposit of pledges for books borrowed. Perhaps this rule was the beginning of our pay collections of today, on which various librarians have consented to express themselves.

El Paso Public Library

Our experience with a duplicate pay collection led us to abandon it ten years ago.

There were many complaints from persons who looked in vain for a fresh copy of a new novel, while on a nearby shelf a row of inviting looking books might be borrowed by paying a fee. It was frequently said that the library is a tax-supported institution and its books should be free to the people. On the other hand, there were a few persons who wanted the pay collection, as these books were always cleaner and less worn than others in the library.

No matter where the case for pay books was placed nor how plainly marked, some people would bring these books to the desk, only to be annoyed and disappointed when told they were in the pay collection.

There are now three commercial rental collections in the city which take care of the inveterate fiction reader.

It seems to me a better way than for the library to try to keep up with the incessant demand for the last and most widely advertised novel or even the more popular non-fiction.

These commercial agencies do not carry, as a rule, the more serious fiction which is good literature. The library supplies this and makes no attempt to keep up with the demand for enough copies of lighter fiction.

Maud Durlin Sullivan, *Librarian.*

Brooklyn Public Library

That the duplicate pay collections in the Brooklyn Public Library fill a definite need is shown by the fact that pay collections are carried on successfully in fifteen of the thirty-three Branch Libraries. The Flatbush Branch has the largest collection of pay books. This Branch includes in its collection books of popular fiction and non-fiction and also books on more specialized topics and with a more limited appeal, such as the *Life of John Marshall.* Only books that are duplicates of those placed in the regular collections are placed in the pay collection, so if a borrower feels that he does not wish to pay the fee (five cents a week) for a pay book he can borrow the same book from the regular collection. In many cases, however, those borrowers who desire the new books at the height of their selling and advertising glory can obtain them immediately. Fiction and non-fiction in the regular collection can be reserved, but new fiction must have been on the shelves for one month before reserves can be taken. In a Branch Library such as Flatbush, where a large public is supplied with books, the new books are difficult to obtain at just the moment desired. The pay collection satisfies this demand. The books in the pay collection may be reserved at any time, upon the payment of the five-cent reserve fee, and the privilege of renewal is extended to more than two weeks. As soon as the books in the pay collection have outgrown their popular demand they are placed in the regular collection, which of course strengthens and supplements the supply of free circulated books.

The pay collection pays for the upkeep and rebinding of the collection not only in the Flatbush Branch but in the medium-sized Branch, such as Bedford and Prospect, and the smaller Branch, as Macon.

Several years ago the pay collection at the Williamsburg Branch had to be discontinued because the collection did not pay for itself. This was partly due to lack of support from the public and partly due to the great loss of books by theft. There is a report of loss by theft from most of the pay collections, probably due to the attractiveness of the books placed in the collection and to the fact that the identification marks of public property on these books may be more readily removed.

The book stores in the neighborhoods of the Branches always charge a higher fee for rental books. In most instances the fee is two cents a day, but it sometimes is as high as twenty-five or thirty cents a week. At Flatbush the book stores often check over the pay collection in the Library in order to know what books to place in their circulating libraries.

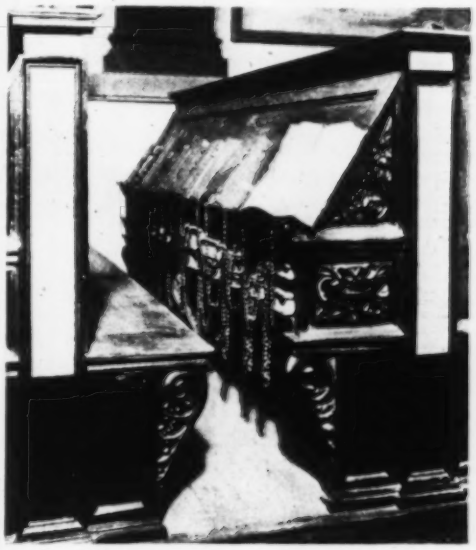
The pay collection seems to fill a definite

place in the Brooklyn community and few, if any, are the objections to paying the necessary fee, especially after the borrower has been made to understand that the books in the pay collection are only duplicates of those in the regular free circulating collection.

This article does not tell the entire story for the whole system, as it was obtained in interviews at three Branch Libraries by the Managing Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Pay Books in the Montclair Free Public Library

THE Sherman Act to the contrary, I believe that if the local bookstores and the public library would all agree on the same fee for rental books, the continual friction everywhere reported and the loss of customers would be done away with.



A Thirteenth Century Pay Collection

In the town of Montclair there are half a dozen circulating libraries in book shops, all charging different prices. Invidious comparisons and "shopping around" are customary. The Library is not in competition with the pay circulating libraries. It welcomes them as taking care of great numbers of readers of light fiction, who reasonably enough want the latest fiction book on the day of publication, but who are not willing to obtain such tax support for the library as would enable it to buy thousands of dollars' worth of new novels. The minimum rental at the circulating libraries is more than the public library's charge (ten cents a week) in most cases. This does not seem, however, to prevent continual discussion and dispute at the library's charging desk over the fact of a fee in a so-called "free" library.

A New Jersey law requires that all such fees be turned over directly to the Town Treasurer. All the library therefore gets from the clerical work involved in collecting about $3,000.00 yearly in rentals is the ultimate ownership of these rather transitory novels, made free as soon as they pay for themselves or show that they will not do so.

We buy five or six copies of a pay book usually. Most of the pay books we do not bother to rebind but discard when their popularity is over. A few are replaced by cheap reprints.

I think that the providing of pay books in public libraries is only one of several special services which should be installed in public libraries, for which legitimate charges should be made. Reserves and mailing are two other examples.

MARGERY QUIGLEY, *Librarian.*

The Rental Collection of the Grand Rapids Public Library

FOR 25 years the Grand Rapids Public Library has been operating a rental collection. It was established as an accommodation to meet more nearly the demand for popular fiction which the regular funds of the library were unable to buy; and on this basis it has been maintained ever since. The charge for this service is 5 cents a week, but books which are retained longer than a week are charged the regular fine of 2 cents a day. The 5-cent charge would not maintain the collection. It is the fines that keep it on the right side financially, and from time to time the surplus income is transferred to the regular book fund of the library.

Approximately only half the books earn enough at 5 cents an issue to pay for themselves. The library endeavors to keep the copies fairly fresh and new in the collection. When a book is rebound, it is withdrawn and placed in the free collection, either at the main library or at the branches. All books that fail to circulate for a period of three months are also withdrawn.

For many years the collection was maintained at the Ryerson (or main) Library only, but several years ago the collection was extended to the branch libraries. In the branch libraries, taken as a whole, the rental books do not pay their way.

There has been little or no adverse criti-

cism of the collection. As a matter of fact the move to have it installed in the branch libraries came from the branch patrons.

The question has occasionally been discussed of applying the rental idea to classes other than fiction. Personally, I think it is a mistaken policy for a library to do this, for it discourages the tax levying authorities from maintaining the library properly as an educational institution. It needs no argument to show that most of the books that a library should have, because of their educational value, would never pay for themselves on a rental basis. It is sometimes said, "Let individuals pay for their own books." If they do that for fiction, why not for all books? It seems to me that the library is giving away one of its best arguments for proper support from taxation when it makes a charge for books in this way. We have emphasized the fact all along that our rental collection is simply a matter of accommodation—supplying extra copies of books likely to be more or less ephemeral which our regular funds do not permit us to purchase in quantity—and as such it has worked very well. However, I should much prefer it to be able to buy from our regular funds all the books we need—thus eliminating the rental idea altogether. You see it is a condition, and not a theory, that confronts us.

SAMUEL H. RANCK, *Librarian.*

Fort Wayne and Allen County

OUR rental collection was installed, in the main library in Fort Wayne, six years ago and, at that time, was considered rather a doubtful experiment. When it was started we had no competition. At present there are four more or less active rental libraries in town and, in spite of this, ours continues to be used more and more. We have several advantages over these other libraries. We know better what people want to read, we are visited daily by all types of readers, and we are open in the evening when more people are free. Then, too, most of the libraries require an initial fee and charge more a day which, in a thrifty middle-western town like Fort Wayne, makes quite a difference. On the other hand, the commercial libraries buy books that the public library does not consider worth purchasing and attract readers who desire such books. Of course, we do not wish to expend our efforts on something that a business firm in town is doing as well as we can, and it may be that at some time in the future we will feel that our work along this line is a duplication and will give up our rental collection.

The books in this collection are always duplicates and are largely fiction, but include a few titles of non-fiction, those that are being heavily reserved. If these are chosen carefully, we find that they will pay for themselves without raising our usual charge. The book card of each book shows how much that particular book has earned, and we let a popular book go on circulating until it has made about one-third more than we originally paid for the book in order to cover losses on books, that do not prove popular, books that disappear and the ones that do not wear well. We make it a rule never to put a rebound book in this collection.

Any borrower of the library may take the rental books, and the charge is two cents a day including the day the book is borrowed and the day it is returned. We do not require a borrower's card for the rental books, and many people who have forgotten their cards are glad to avail themselves of this privilege.

The advantage to the library of such a collection is twofold. First, our fiction is constantly having fresh copies of comparatively new books added to it. These extra copies make a great saving in our replacements later on. More important than this is the satisfaction given to our readers. Today people are reading and talking about the new books. They want them when other people are talking about them. We can never get enough copies of a new book to satisfy this demand, and it would not be fair to the taxpayers to spend the library income on many duplicates of books whose popularity is, in many cases, so short-lived. Through this duplicate pay collection we get extra copies with no extra expense to the library and hold our latest-novel readers.

MARY ROSSELL, *Head of Circulation.*

Portland, Oregon

CONSTANCE EWING, head of the circulating department of the Public Library, Portland, Ore., has experimented for three years on new ways of handling duplicate pay collections. Her latest plan is to select 18 of the most popular titles in fiction and non-fiction. Patrons of the library are given the opportunity to subscribe to the list, checking 12 of the 18 titles they want to read. A subscription fee of 25 cents in charged to cover cost of mailing notification postals. The books are issued at 15 cents a week. The plan has been very successful. The borrowers are pleased to have a chance to read the new books, one after another, without any delay. Usually the subscribers are through with them long before the general demand has been satisfied, and even though the books have not paid for themselves, they may be added to the library collection at less than half their regular price.

Illinois Libraries, Jan., 1929.

The Science of Brainless Book Buying

By Harold A. Wooster

Librarian, Brockton Public Library, Brockton, Mass.

We may grumble about the difficult, baffling, perplexing, burdensome job of buying books, but to be perfectly honest we find enjoyment and satisfaction in this self-inflicted task. Heaven knows there are enough experts, real and imaginary, willing to take the problem away and do the buying for one. There are available, of course, many solemn treatises by eminent authorities on the art and science of book buying. The only difficulty with these chapters and books on book selection is that this good advice presupposes an abundance of brains and plenty of time; ingredients which may easily be lacking. Therefore, material on "The Science of Brainless Book Buying" meets an important need in a neglected field of wide interest. Not knowing of any printed material on this subject, I offer the following deductions.

Part of the science of brainless book buying is to frankly admit that at times you must be a good guesser. This seems, at first thought, a mere label which does not help very much. Yet it is of fundamental value in initiating one into a fraternity, a brotherhood of guessers, which includes authors, publishers and book men of all kinds. As a member in good standing of the sacred order of guessers you are able to shed the judicial robes of the expert and critic, which may not have fitted very well anyway. Enough time, energy and mental effort can be saved in dropping a pose to accomplish much useful work.

Another axiom is to drop all pretense of infallibility and universality. A librarian, for example, should not expect to avoid guessing wrong and taking a loss at times. No one in the book world is in this fortunate position. Honestly admitting your limitations, you are free to admit a mistake or reverse a decision, your dignity is not injured in the process. Not expecting to please everybody, and taking your ability to judge books with a sense of humor, you have a useful shock absorber for the bumps which come with any system of book buying, brainy or brainless.

The next point is to delegate authority, wherever possible, saving your own brains by using those of other people. It is surprising what experienced, capable, efficient people do exist in the book world, or your own organization, whose help is easily and readily available. On many books it is possible to secure reliable information as to the nature, characteristics and standing of a book, limiting the use of your own brains to the one point as to whether you want to buy such a book. It really is too great a brain task to appreciate, under the spell of a fascinating or persistent book salesman, all the beauties of this or that set or compendium of all knowledge and to endorse and purchase the same. The evaluation of this work is a task for some brainy critic, expert or literary judge, and can well be dodged in brainless buying.

Thanks to certain savings of the brainless system of book buying, one has more time for personal reading. It is important to have a clear difference in your own mind between the books you have read and the ones you have read about. As an apostle of the joy of reading, one must relax and share this joy without any sense of being driven or working from a sense of duty or of constantly criticizing and analyzing. A hobby and special field of interest, no matter what, is of value. We need a system of book buying which leaves opportunity for personal reading.

Another way to simplify book buying, and to save in brain wear and tear, is not to make a great event out of the purchase of an individual book but rather to try and have certain common sense principles governing your buying in general. These principles can help by eliminating many books from consideration and by pointing to other books you are anxious to secure. It is easier and safer to buy for a definite, known need than to buy for one which may never develop. The known needs can be revealed by studying your book machine in action. Also a system of reporting shortcomings in regard to standard material will show many ways to buy wisely on facts already known. It does not require brains to freely duplicate a good book in great demand, yet this is a wise expenditure.

For many people in a library there is need of a simple system of book buying which will save more of their brains and nerve force for personal reading, for serving people, for administration. A system of successful brainless book buying should be carefully propounded and explained, for many of us need it.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

March 15, 1929

Editorial Forum

IT used to be thought that the public library, lending books to many readers, one after another, limited the sale of books to the individual purchaser. That was one of the narrow interpretations of the past, and library service is now seen in an altogether different light. It is generally admitted nowadays that the library develops, first of all, readers and then purchasers of books, and although books can be had free at the public library, circulating libraries are increasing rather than diminishing in most of the centers of population, and within the public library system the duplicate pay collection has developed in the last score of years to remarkable proportions. As most libraries can purchase only one copy of a book, only the wants of one reader can thus be met at a time, and the duplicate pay collection naturally grew up to meet an evident desire. The scheme requires some working capital at the start, but with a very moderate fee, about the same as that of outside circulating libraries, working capital presently accumulates and in some libraries a fund has grown up beyond the immediate call for further expenditure in duplicating new books. Prejudice against this scheme has mostly disappeared, for it has come to be recognized that every means of developing reading is in the interest of all concerned with the production and distribution of books—author, publisher, bookseller, librarian, as well as the great body of those who are or should be readers.

* * *

THE Seville exposition, whose formal opening is set for today, will be notable on the library side for the contributions from America, which are in part intended as the nucleus in Spain of a permanent collection of American literature. The Library of Congress has taken great pains to send a characteristic exhibit, and American publishers have responded freely and liberally to the call of the A. L. A. for examples of standard or current book publications. The Seville exposition is intended to emphasize cultural relations, as that which is to be simultaneously under way at Barcelona deals chiefly with industrial relations and sports. Together these expositions should do the service for Spain which the Philadelphia and Chicago expositions did for America in stimulating national spirit. It is good that America, through its cooperation, should express its gratitude to a nation not our mother country, but our grandmother country as, with Columbus in mind, it may fairly be called.

* * *

THE Library of Congress has won such general approval that full appropriations for its needs are no longer in question. These needs, of course, increase with its collections, as, in providing for the cataloging of the great gifts which come to it from time to time such as Mr. Harkness' recent provision of historical Spanish material, ultimately a force of a hundred catalogers will be required to cover the usual work of the Library and the special work involved in putting such gifts into shape. Happily, the Library Committee is fully supported by Congress in making adequate provision for the Library, and this year the bill which has been reported provides for the acquisition of the land in the rear of the library building, which is becoming so necessary for the accommodation of the ever-widening work of our national library.

* * *

THE wastefulness of each library's preparing and printing its own brief reading lists instead of procuring them cooperatively has long been discussed. The Publishing Board of the A. L. A. some years ago tried offering a number of short book lists but without much success. The Lantern Lists at one time supplied by Miss Zaidee Brown marked a similar effort. Latterly, the Reading with a Purpose Series, issued by the A. L. A., has brought a much larger response; but these pamphlets are too elaborate and expensive for libraries to give away generally to readers. Recently the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore has prepared a number of lists, circulars and broadsides, and before going to press has invited other libraries to order copies with their own imprint. Not a few alert libraries have thus obtained excellent lists, attractively printed, at surprisingly small cost. In making these lists available Mr. Joseph L. Wheeler has rendered a useful service, and pointed the way to further cooperation. It will be strange if libraries, and particularly the smaller libraries, do not increasingly take advantage of such opportunities. H. C. W.

Library Chat

Contributions Welcomed

A Museum of Antiquities

1. The Grecian urn that inspired the imperishable ode of John Keats. 2. The inkstand that Martin Luther threw at the devil. 3. The vorpal blade that went snicker snack and killed the Jabberwock. 4. The book that the guilty Paolo and Francesca read together. 5. Wilhelm Tell's arrow that pierced the apple on his young son's head, and other one that was saved for Gessler. 6. The whacking white cheroot that Supi-yaw-lat smoked. 7. The wooden leg of John Silver. 8. The iron hand of Götz von Berlichingen. 9. The crutches of Tiny Tim. 10. The "broche of gold ful shene" that the Nonne, the Prioresse, wore. 11. King Arthur's Excalibur recovered from the mere. 12. The shield of Lancelot that was guarded by Elaine. 13. The precious hoard of the Nibelungs. 14. The sword of Damocles. 15. The tuffet of Little Miss Muffet. 16. The horn of Little Boy Blue. 17. The red riding hood of Red Riding Hood. 18. Tyltyl's blue bird. 19. Lady Windermere's fan. 20. The shield of Achilles forged by Vulcan. 21. The pipe of the pied piper of Hamelin. 22. The sword that Aeneas gave Queen Dido, with which she killed herself. 23. The sword on which King Saul fell when the battle with the Philistines went against him. 24. Macbeth's dagger that killed King Duncan. 25. The steadfast tin soldier. 26. The beautiful pea-green boat in which the owl and the pussy cat went to sea. 27. The red bag that Anna Karénina was carrying at the fatal moment. 28. The Bishop's candlesticks that transformed Jean Valjean. 29. The jewelry that Mephistopheles procured for Faust to give Gretchen to accomplish her ruin. 30. The great burden that Christian bore on his back as he started on his way to the Celestial City. 31. Aladdin's lamp. 32. The three lilies that the Blessed Damozel bore in her hand, and the seven stars that she wore in her hair. 33. The crossbow that the Ancient Mariner used to shoot the albatross. 34. Aaron's rod that budded. 35. The curls of gold that Nicolete the Fair cut from her head and threw Aucassin in his dungeon hold. 36. The famous Lombard crown that Charlemagne wore in triumph. 37. The charger in which Salome bore the head of John the Baptist. 38. The red ribbon and scarlet stockings that Mistress Beatrix wore as she came to meet Henry Esmond. 39. Nero's fiddle. 40. The hammer of Thor. 41. The hatchet that George Washington used to show that he couldn't tell a lie. 42. The plumed helmet of Hector. 43. The bow of Ulysses. 44. The gifts that Ophelia returned to Hamlet. 45. Pandora's box. 46. Old Charon's ferryboat that he used on the River Styx. 47. Cleopatra's barge, which "like a burnished throne burned on the water." 48. Garibaldi's red shirt. 49. Sir Walter Raleigh's handsome cloak which he spread before Queen Elizabeth. 50. The contract signed in blood that Faust made with Mephistopheles. 51. The linen garment that, rather than be captured, John Mark left in the hands of the Roman soldier. 52. The sword that Peter used to cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. 53. The ball thrown by Nausicaa and her maidens. 54. The blanket from which Sancho Panza was tossed by his tormentors. 55. The doublet and hose worn by Rosalind in the Forest of Arden. 56. The silver throne on which the body of the dead Alaric the Visigoth was placed in the river-bed of the Busento. 57. The jewels that Queen Isabella disposed of in order to send Columbus over to discover us. 58. Joseph's coat of many colors. 59. The whip of small cords that Jesus used to drive the money changers from the Temple. 60. The thirty pieces of silver given to Judas as blood money. 61. The manuscript of "Œdipus at Colonus" from which the aged Sophocles read to prove his mental soundness. 62. The scarlet letter A that was worn by Hester Prynne. 63. The handkerchief that inflamed the jealousy of Othello. 64. The cup that contained the fatal draught of hemlock drunk by Socrates. 65. The copy of Doctor Johnson's Dictionary which was offered to Becky Sharp as a gift when she left boarding school, and which she petulantly refused. 66. The two vast and trunkless legs of stone that stand in the desert, the half sunk shattered visage, and the pedestal. 67. The raven who quoth "Nevermore." 68. The shield of the renowned viking Olaf Trygvesson which, when beset by his enemies in that last and greatest sea fight, he threw over his head as he plunged overboard and sank beneath the waters. 69. The staff of Prospero which he buried "certain fathoms deep in the earth" and his book which he drowned "deeper than did ever plummet sound." 70. The sling of the shepherd boy David which he used to slay the giant Goliath. 71. The golden fleece that Jason brought back, and the poison raiment given by Medea to her rival. 72. The gates of the Philistine city of Gaza that Samson bore away on his shoulders. 73. The "second best bed" that Shakespeare left as the sole legacy to his widow Anne Hathaway Shakespeare. 74. The "true ring" of the three rings which Nathan the Wise told Saladin about. 75. The chariot of fire and horses of fire that took the prophet Elijah by a whirlwind into heaven.

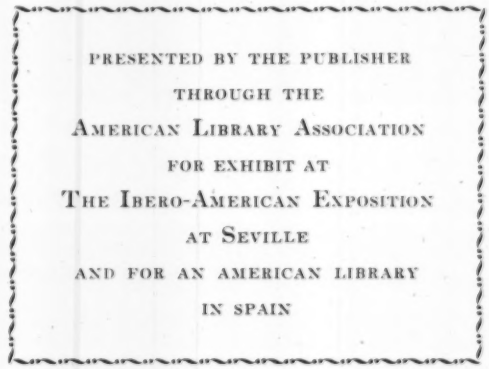
—From *Detached Thoughts*, by W. L. Richardson.

The Ibero-American Exposition

THE Ibero-American Exposition will take place in Seville, one of the most charming cities of Andalusia. Seville is a town almost oriental in character, vibrating with life and color under a clear blue sky. There are splendid boulevards and beautiful parks in the city, and part of the exposition itself will be held in the Parque de Maria Luisa, famous for its trees and flowers. Two million square meters of land lying between the city and the Guadalquivir River have been set aside for the exposition. Seville is accessible by rail and motor from Madrid, Granada, Cordova and Cadiz, as well as from Gibraltar.

This exposition, known as the "Exposicion Iberoamericana," will be held in Seville from March 15, 1929, through December. The main divisions of the exposition will be art, history, industry and commerce, agriculture and live stock, America and Portugal, travel, sports, congresses and festivals. The Central and South American Republics and the United States have been invited to participate.

Through John T. Vance, Chairman of the Committee on Library Cooperation with Hispanic Peoples, the American Library Association was asked to select 900 books which would afford a glimpse of American thought and culture. It was to be kept in mind that the exhibit would remain as the nucleus of a permanent American library in Spain, which would probably be used by American and by Spanish students and readers. The selection was made in December, and the publishers, more than 100 of them, were invited to cooperate with the United States Government and the American Library Association by contributing the books. Mr. Hopper of the New York Public Library kindly offered space in the Riverside Branch of the New York Public Library where the books might be assembled and made ready for shipment. The publishers were very generous in their response, only five houses being unwilling, for one reason or another, to cooperate. Karl Brown of the New York Public Library classified the books roughly, shelf-listed them and pasted a copy of the bookplate in each. He then packed and shipped them through the government dispatch agent at New York on Jan. 10 and 18. About twenty magazines were selected as characteristic of American periodicals, and the publishers were asked to contribute a recent bound volume of each. Most of them agreed to do so, but the magazines could not be made ready at once, so several were shipped in February. A bilingual placard was printed, and six copies have been sent to Seville for display with the exhibit. Charles H. Hastings of the Library of Congress was furnished a copy of the shelf list, from which he assembled a collection of Library of Congress catalog cards. There is one alphabetical group of cards and another arranged by class. One of Mr. Hastings' assistants lettered the D. C. numbers on the cards, and the Library of Congress kindly furnished a case and an explanatory sign to accompany the collection. The expense of the exhibit has been met from the International Fund, and amounted in all to less than $200.



A copy of the bookplate placed in each book

The exhibit from the Library of Congress is planned to illustrate (a) the influence of Spain upon the United States through Spanish explorers, colonization and literature; (b) the organization and development of the Library of Congress. The salient features of (a) include:

1. A large map of the United States prepared by the Library, showing the routes of Spanish explorations, the locations of Spanish missions and other settlements.

2. Photographs of the Spanish missions in California and the Southwest, and of old St. Augustine, Fla.

3. Facsimile reproductions of significant pages of books and manuscripts in the Library of Congress illustrating the cultural ties between Spain and the United States:

In Spanish literature (early imprints):

Primaleon, 1534;

Primera Parte de la Vida del Picaro Guzman de Alfarache, 1603;

El Ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha, 1607.

In American literature:
Irving's *Alhambra*, 1832;
Longfellow's *Spanish Student*, 1843;
Prescott's *Philip the Second*, 1853;
Ticknor's *Spanish Literature*, 1849.

In law:
The Laws of Las Sieta Partidas, Vol. 1, New Orleans, 1820;
A Compilation of Spanish and Mexican Law, Vol. 1, New York, 1831;
The Civil Law of Spain and Mexico, New Orleans, 1851;
Leyes Commerciales de la America Latina, Washington, 1907.

In music:
La Jota Aragonesa, by Louis Moreau Gottschalk (composer's holograph), first performed at the Teatro del Principe in Madrid, June 13, 1852.

Activities and resources of the Library of Congress are illustrated by

1. A collected set of more than 100 Library of Congress publications, 1899-1928.

2. Card Division exhibit consisting principally of a dictionary catalog of 45,000 printed catalog cards of books in the Library of Congress relating to Spain and Spanish topics. Above the card cabinet will be photographs of the Card Division and Catalog Division and also graphic charts setting forth the rapid growth of the sales of printed cards since the activity was originally established. Sample printed catalog cards and explanatory pamphlets will be available for free distribution.

3. Interior views: Some of the collections (Spanish literature, Chinese literature, the Pennell collection), floor plans, mural decorations.

MAIN CENTERS OF THE EXHIBITIONS

First Center—Situated in the Jardines de San Telmo. Exhibits of regional dances, music and costumes; travel exhibits and headquarters for excursions.

Second Center—Situated in Plaza de Espana. The historical exhibit and artistic aspects of industrial activities.

Third Center—Situated in the Plaza de America. Art exhibit.

Fourth Center—Situated in la Gran Avenida de America and la Plaza de Portugal. The industrial and commercial exhibits; the American and Portuguese exhibits and the agriculture and live stock exhibits.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR SEVILLE EXPOSITION

Thomas Campbell, Chairman, Washington, D. C.

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SEVILLE EXPOSITION COMMITTE IN NEW YORK

Manuel Caragol, 7 Water St., New York, N. Y.

Exposición De Libros

ESTA exposición de libros fué preparada por la Asociación Norte-Americana de Bibliotecas, Estados Unidos, para ofrecer una sencilla muestra de la vida y la cultura de los Estados Unidos. Los libros son, en gran parte, una contribución de las casas editoras y formarán el núcleo de una Biblioteca Norte - Americana en España.

Algunas importantes omision es débense al hecho de que varios editores se vieron dificultados para cooperar en este proyecto.

Book Exhibit

THIS exhibit of books has been assembled by the American Library Association, U. S. A., to offer a glimpse of the life and culture of the United States. The books have been largely contributed by their publishers and will form the nucleus of a permanent American Library in Spain.

Some important omissions are due to the fact that several publishers found themselves unable to join in this project.

The Bi-lingual Placard to Be Displayed with the Exhibit

Current Literature and Bibliography

A SEVENTH volume of *Bibliotheca Celtica*, the register of publications relating to Wales and the Celtic peoples and languages, was published in January by the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth (cl., 468 p. 7s. 6d.). This volume covers the years 1919-23, with a supplement of works issued 1909-1918 but not previously recorded, and the next volume, now in preparation, will continue the record from 1924 to 1926 inclusive. There is no subject index in either this volume or its companions. Henry Danielson's *Arthur Machen; a Bibliography*, for instance, has no entry under Machen's name.

LANDSCAPE gardening, sculpture, drawing, painting, engraving, photography, music and amusements comprise the range of subjects covered by the new and valuable *Fine Arts Section* of the Wilson "Standard Catalog" series, and for a most welcome extra measure Costume, a subject belonging to the 390's, is here added to the 700's. More than a third of the 1200 titles are included in the analytical index to bring out all their reference content (cl., 191 p., $2. Minnie Earl Sears, compiler).

NEW library bulletins continue to appear. The *Library Mercury* of the Rochester (N. Y.) Public Library, which began publication in January, takes its title from a prominent denizen of the Rochester skyline, who lives atop the annex to the Central Library, and not from any green-coated contemporary in the magazine field. "We are hoping, in appropriating his name, to appropriate also his duties and characteristics by making the *Library Mercury* a true library messenger who will bring tidings of the Rochester Public Library, its services, and its plans to the people of the city," runs a preface to historical notes and a list of interesting new books.

College Libraries

AN article by David A. Robertson, printed in the *Educational Record*, gives praise, severe criticism, personal anecdotes, and a lively knowledge of what is being done by college libraries. It was an address delivered before the Institute on Problems of College Education at the University of Michigan, but it should bring stimulus to students, parents, professors, librarians and all interested in books and reading.

Mr. Robertson rightly considers that the number of books for colleges is less significant than their quality, their suitability to the needs of the students, and their easy availability, though he does not scorn a large library merely because of its size. In his examination of hundreds of college libraries he has found a great variety of methods of management.

Where administration is by some one professionally trained, the work is moving in the right direction, even though poor budgeting of college funds may be hampering the librarian. But too many libraries in our universities are under the direction of persons without adequate training.

General reference works are neglected by untrained librarians. In some universities one department waits on another to buy a work which all need, and meantime the students do without.

The use of periodicals, especially those in foreign languages, is stressed. In many collections even the English and American magazines are not easily available. Mr. Robertson tells an incident of his own experience as a sophomore at the University of Chicago, which one would like to think of as being duplicated today by undergraduates:

"One night Charles Huston brought from the college library *Blackwood's Magazine* for November, 1898, and said, 'Here's something I think is good. Suppose we take turns in reading it.' So that group of romantic sophomores in the gloom which wavered about the grate fire, smoke Latakia in their long-stemmed clay pipes and heard for the first time a story called *Youth* by an unknown man called Joseph Conrad."

Pratt Reprints List of Fifty Conspicuous Novels

A COUPLE of years ago the Pratt Institute Free Library issued as a special list in its *Quarterly Booklist* a selection of Fifty Conspicuous Novels of the First Quarter of This Century. The list was reprinted in several publications and attracted favorable notice. Persistent demand for it since the first edition was exhausted has led to a reprint of the list as a separate booklet. The list is offered for sale, to cover actual cost of production, as follows:

25 copies—5 cents each,
100 copies—3 cents each,
100-200 copies—2½ cents each,
200 copies—2¼ cents each.

Library Exhibit in China

THE first elaborated library exhibit was held on Jan. 1 to 3, 1929, at the Sun Yatsen University Library, Canton, attended by 8732 visitors. It was planned and supervised by a library specialist, Mr. Ding U. Doo, the librarian, with the object of arousing general interest in library movement and promoting the reading habit of the public.

The library exhibit was arranged in 10 groups:

1st — Impression of the public, a huge book entitled "Road to Life."

2nd—Condition of libraries of the world, with a number of statistical charts, pictures of representative library buildings and reports of various libraries.

3rd — Condition of the Sun Yatsen University Library.

4th—Book selection and ordering, showing how a book is selected and ordered.

5th—Classification, showing where the call number comes from and its meaning.

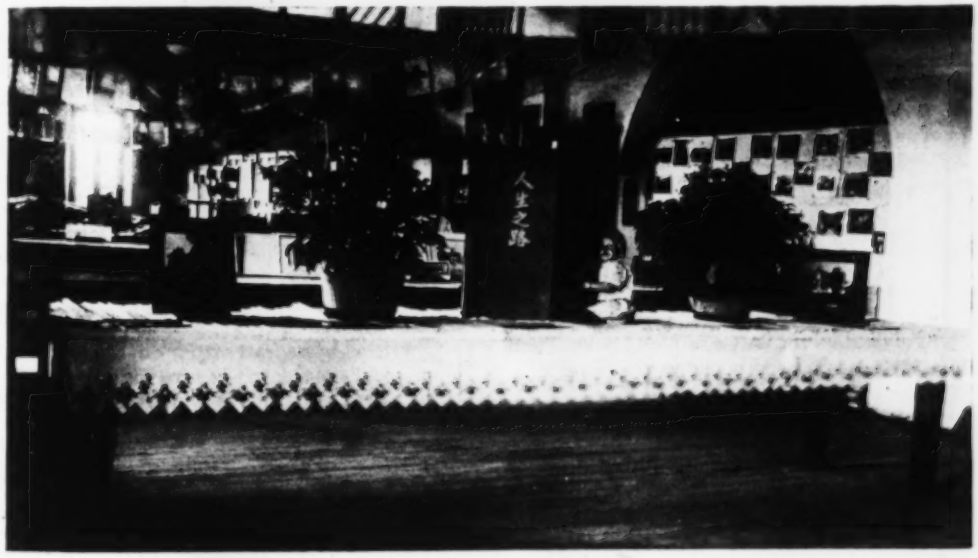
6th—Cataloging, showing form of cards and how a book is cataloged; where the various entries come from.

7th — Reference work: an example of work on population problem of China, with a number of books for reference.

8th — Charging and reading, showing process of charging and returning a book; aids to reading, book displayers, adjustable and portable reading desks, books and articles on method of reading.

9th — Book rarity — Chinese and foreign and 100 kinds of new books received during November.

10th—A huge mountain, well decorated with Dr. Sun Yatsen's statue on top and a number of books on Sun Yatsenism and revolution.



In the Library World

Lectures on the Classification System of the Library of Congress

PROF. J. C. M. HANSON of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago will give a course of fourteen lectures at the School of Library Service, Columbia University, during the period April 2 to 12, 1929, on the Classification System of the Library of Congress. These lectures constitute, for the academic year 1928-1929, the regular course in advanced classification, known as Library Service 318.

In order that registration for this course may not be limited to matriculated students in the School of Library Service, it has been designated as a Special University Extension Course and will be open for registration to any library worker who is in a position to take the course with profit to himself. Permission to register may be secured by applying to the Director of the School of Library Service.

All lectures will be fifty minutes in length and held in Room 422, Library (top floor, Southeast staircase).

Tuesday, April 2, 10 a. m. and 3:10 p. m.
Wednesday, April 3, 11 a. m.
Thursday, April 4, 12 a. m. and 3:10 p. m.
Friday, April 5, 12 a. m.
Monday, April 8, 12 a. m.
Tuesday, April 9, 10 a. m. and 3:10 p. m.
Wednesday, April 10, 11 a. m. and 3:10 p. m.
Thursday, April 11, 12 a. m. and 3:10 p. m.
Friday, April 12, 12 a. m.

The tuition fee is $10. A student who is not registered for any other course in the University, who is not a candidate for a degree, and who desires to take this course as a Special University Extension Course, without credit, may be excused from paying the regular University fee of $7 in addition to the tuition fee.

Enlarge Langdell Hall at Harvard

THE facilities for housing the Harvard Law School's vast law library have been greatly enlarged. In the present Langdell Hall there are 8500 shelf units in the stacks now in use. The new building will have, in addition to these, 11,500 more units, and the library will provide accommodations for half a million books. There are at present 300,000 books in the library.

Urgent

Library Students—Will you resell your February 1 issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL? We are paying 25 cents for each copy.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL,
62 West 45th Street, New York.

House That Jack Built

THE House That Jack Built is the official title of the library at the Naval Training Station, Newport, R. I. It is a one-story stucco building, with a collection of about 5000 volumes, one-third of which are fiction. The Bureau of Navigation provides these books, sending shipments of new titles to the station quarterly. The library is also used as a writing room, and writing materials are furnished to the men. A librarian, Miss Alice H. Savage, employed by the Bureau of Navigation, under the Civil Service, administers to the wants of these young men, many of whom spend their leisure time in study rather than in reading of fiction. As to their choice in books, material on mathematics and the trades is always on demand. When it comes to fiction, western and detective stories supply the excitement and action craved.—*Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin.*

Prize Competition for New York State Librarians

THE New York State Publicity Committee, consisting of Paul M. Paine, Syracuse Public Library, Chairman; Mrs. Daves Rossell, Albany Public Library; Miss Mildred E. Ross, Grosvenor Library, Buffalo, and Miss Ann Hathaway, Extension Division, Albany, announces two prize competitions open to all librarians in the State.

First, a competition for library exhibits to be shown at the N. Y. L. A. meeting in October at Lake Placid, N. Y., and open to all libraries in the State. Prizes will be awarded on the basis of originality and achieved purpose. Each exhibit to be not larger than can be set up on a 5 ft. x 3 ft. table. Librarians entering this exhibit must give early notice to Mrs. Rossell of the Albany Public Library.

Second, a competition for newspaper publicity with two prizes or sets of prizes. First, the best publicity for local village libraries in weekly rural newspapers; and second, daily newspaper publicity in places up to 25,000 population. Special attention will be given to publicity written by representatives of the libraries. Points to be considered in awarding prizes will be the news value of the publicity, the results obtained by it, and the amount of space devoted to it. The period to be covered will be from Jan. 1, 1929, to Sept 1, 1929, and due consideration will be given to the handicaps which some of the libraries have to contend with.

Denmark Invites American Educators

THIS summer Denmark invites American educators to inspect her educational institutions. This opportunity, never before extended to Americans, has been made possible through Dr. Sven V. Knudsen, 248 Boylston Street, Boston, originator of "My Friend Abroad" trips, and formerly supervisor of Danish preparatory schools. It is a well-established fact that the educational institutions of Denmark have reached a very high degree of perfection.

Doctor Knudsen has arranged for two of the famous Peoples Colleges to be opened so that members of his party may enter them at any time, study all the proceedings, talk with the teachers and students, and attend the classes. Typical Danish preparatory schools will also be accessible. It will be a great privilege to visit these schools where Danish boys and girls prepare for the University of Copenhagen; where they take five foreign languages, and attain an education that in quantity corresponds to two years of college work in addition to a thorough high school training. There will be special exhibitions of the renowned Danish gymnastics, and many of the physical education institutions ordinarily closed from April to October will be open for members of Doctor Knudsen's party.

Twice a week during the stay in Denmark there will be lectures at the University Club of Copenhagen and at Château Lerchenborg, where Doctor Knudsen will entertain the members of his party as his guests. Special topics for discussion will be Danish Peoples Colleges, Cooperative Marketing, the Youth Movement of the World, the Exchange of Youth, Democratic Physical Culture, the Growth of the English Language, Modern Preparatory Schools, Around the World in a Ford, and scores of other talks by famous educators and distinguished travelers.

Of particular interest to members of Doctor Knudsen's party will be the World Conference of New Education at Elsinore from August 8 to 17. Kronborg Castle, the famous scene of Shakespear's *Hamlet* has been lent to the Conference for its meetings.

"Peter Pan Room"

THE Anderson, Ind., Public Library has been enlarged and remodeled during the summer. The improvements include a new children's room, a new reference room where the children's room has been, and a new staff room. The children's department is now called the "Peter Pan Room."

Yale University Library Receives Fund

THE Yale alumni who assembled on February 22 were informed of a fund of $500,000 given to Yale by Mr. Otto T. Bannard of New York City before his death at sea on January 15. On November 16, 1921, Mr. Bannard by deed of gift established a "Library Fund," the capital of which was to be held and the income of which was to be used for the support and extension of the library of the university. Mr. Bannard provided that the entire income of the fund should be added to the principal until this should amount to at least $500,000. The principal of the fund has now reached the specified total so that the income from the fund established anonymously by him in 1921 will become available even before the settlement of Mr. Bannard's estate.

University of British Columbia

THE Library building of the University of British Columbia has been enriched by a memorial window of nine panels, the gift of an anonymous donor. The center panel depicts the Arms of the Dominion of Canada, and the others those of eight of the Canadian provinces. The Arms of British Columbia are not included, as these have already been installed in the central Gothic window in the main reading room.

The window was unveiled by Premier Tolmie, the ceremony being preceded by a special congregation for the conference of degrees, with an address by Prof. D. Harvey, head of the history department. It was designed by Messrs. Sharp & Thompson, architects to the university, and the work executed in England by the Bromsgrove Guild of Montreal.

The library has installed and furnished thirteen additional carrels for use by graduate and senior students.

The installation gives additional accommodation for 30,000 volumes. A new stack contract was let to Snead & Company, Jersey City, who put in the original installation of tiers 2 to 5. The library has now accommodation for 125,000 volumes. The university's book collection exceeds 72,000 volumes, and is growing at an average rate of 4800 volumes a year.

Rollins College

AT the exercises of Founder's Week, celebrating the forty-fourth anniversary of the founding of Rollins College, Florida's oldest institution of higher learning, a collection of more than $2,000 was taken for the purchase of new books for the library.

Recommended Books on World Politics

The World Peace Foundation lists these readings selected by James G. McDonald in Collaboration with the Research Staff of the Foreign Policy Association

Mr. Hoover's Foreign Problems

R. L. Buell. *Hoover's Foreign Problems. New Republic*, Feb. 20, 1929, p. 7-10. Stressing the dangers of governmental trade promotion.

I. J. Cox. *Nicaragua and the United States, 1909-1927.* Boston, World Peace Foundation, 1927. $1.25. Summary by a professor of Latin-American history.

W. Cameron Forbes. *The Philippine Islands.* Boston, Houghton, 1928. 2 Vols. $10. A most complete study by a former Governor General.

W. T. Stone. *The Administration of the Department of State. (Foreign Policy Association. Information Service*, Vol. IV, Spec. Sup. No. 3, February, 1929). A comprehensive analysis of the State Department.

The Monroe Doctrine and Latin America. (*F. P. A. Information Service*, Vol. IV, No. 20, December, 1928). 25c. Discussion of the diplomatic and legal problems in American recognition of Soviet Russia.

J. W. Garner. *American Foreign Policies.* New York, New York University Press, 1928. $6. Provocative essays.

Ernest Gruening. *Mexico and Its Heritage.* New York, Century, 1928. $6. A comprehensive recent book on the political, social and economic problems of Mexico.

C. P. Howland. *Survey of American Foreign Relations, 1928.* New Haven, Yale University Press, 1928. $5. Surveys the United States relations with the rest of the world.

C. E. Hughes. *Our Relations to the Nations of the Western Hemisphere.* Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1928. $1.75. Addresses on foreign problems by a former Secretary of State.

J. M. Mathews. *American Foreign Relations.* New York, Century, 1928. $4. A useful general survey of the whole field.

Moorfield Storey and M. P. Lichauco. *The Conquest of the Philippines by the United States.* New York, Putnam, 1926. An eloquent plea for Philippine independence.

F. L. Schumann. *American Policy Toward Russia Since 1917.* International Publishing Co., 1928. $3.75. The latest and most comprehensive study of the whole problem of American-Russian relations.

H. L. Stimson. *American Policy in Nicaragua.* New York, Scribner, 1927. $1.25. An impressive account by President Coolidge's special representative in Nicaragua.

G. H. Stuart. *Latin America and the United States.* 2nd ed. rev. New York, Century, 1928. $3.75. An excellent recent text book covering the whole field.

Is Britain Done?

Norman Angell. *Must Britain Travel the Moscow Road?* London, Douglas, 1926. 5 shillings. The well-known English publicist questions whether Britain can avoid revolution by achieving industrial efficiency and economic democracy.

R. L. Buell. *Europe: A History of Ten Years.* New York, Macmillan, 1928. $3. Chapter VII states the problem succinctly.

C. D. Burns. *A Short History of the World, 1918-1928.* New York, Payson & Clarke, 1928. $3.50. Chapter XIV is a concise statement of the economic developments in Britain since the war by one of the able younger economists.

F. E. Fremantle. *The Housing of the Nation.* London, Philip Allan & Co., Ltd., 1927. 2 shillings. A comprehensive handbook.

J. W. Hills and D. C. Morison. *The Finance of Government.* London, Philip Allan & Co., Ltd., 1925. 2 shillings. An admirable handbook.

W. R. Inge. *England.* New York, Scribner, 1926. $3. A provocative study by the "Gloomy Dean," whose views are frequently the subject of controversy.

Liberal Industrial Inquiry. Britain's Industrial Future. London, Benn, 1928. Perhaps the best study of British economic conditions since the war.

Frank Plachy. *Britain's Economic Plight.* Boston, Little, 1926. $1.50. A suggestive analysis.

Arnold Rechberg. Whither England? *Living Age*, July, 1928, p. 1010-3. Brief but pertinent questions.

André Siegfried. *Post-War Britain.* New York, Dutton, 1925. $3.50. A searching analysis by one of the ablest of present-day students.

Foreign Affairs. "The Passing of England's Economic Hegemony." July, 1928, p. 525-40. A challenging summary of Britain's problems.

A. E. Zimmern. *Third British Empire.* Lon-

don, Oxford University Press, 1926. $2. An unusually original interpretation of the British Empire today.

British Politics

Stanley Baldwin. *Our Inheritance*. Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday, Doran, 1928. $2.50.

H. N. Brailsford. Before the British Elections. *Foreign Affairs*, October, 1928, p. 54-63.

R. L. Buell. *The British Foreign Office*. (*Foreign Policy Association*. Information Service, Vol. IV, No. 24, Feb. 6, 1929). 25c. An interesting study of the British method of administering foreign affairs.

Great Britain and the Dominions. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1928. $3. (Norman Wait Harris Memorial Foundation.)

A. L. Lowell and H. D. Hall. *British Commonwealth of Nations*. Boston, World Peace Foundation, 1927. (Pamphlets, Vol. X, No. 6). 20c. A brief analysis of the "Constitution of the Empire."

A. L. Lowell. *Greater European Governments*. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard University Press, 1926. $2. The first five chapters supply an excellent summary.

W. B. Munro. *The Governments of Europe*. New York, Macmillan, 1925. $4.25. Contains a detailed and excellent analysis of the governmental system.

Sir Charles Petrie. Problem of British Foreign Policy. *Nineteenth Century*, December, 1928, p. 717-27. A suggestive analysis.

A. J. Toynbee. *Conduct of British Empire Foreign Relations Since the Peace Settlement*. London, Oxford University Press, 1928. $3.

Free On Request

The following publications are available for distribution from the General Library of the University of Michigan for the cost of postage:

Campbell, E. D. *History of the Chemical Laboratory of the University of Michigan*, 1856-1916. Ann Arbor, 1916.

Campbell, J. V. *Outlines of the Political History of Michigan*. Detroit, 1876.

Michigan Political Science Association. *Publications*. Vols. 4, 5, 6.

Taylor, F. M. *Principles of Economics*. 7th ed. Ann Arbor, 1920.

Judge Campbell's *Outlines of the Political History of Michigan*, although published in 1876, is still the most valuable contribution to the early history of the State of Michigan.

The *Publications of the Michigan Political Science Association* contain a number of important contributions which cannot be found elsewhere.

National League of Women Voters Radio Program

Compiled by The American Library Association.

March 19—Tariff and living costs

BOOKS

Crompton, George. *The Tariff, an Interpretation of a Bewildering Problem*. Macmillan. 1927.

Here is a book which presents authoritatively the history of the tariff as well as practical, up-to-date information on tariff problems. It is interestingly written and easily read.

PERIODICALS

The Tariff Thunder Cloud, in *The Outlook*, Feb. 20, 1929.

Can the Tariff Help the Farmer? by Robert Stewart, in *The New Republic*, Jan. 30, 1929.

The theme of this article is that the tariff will not solve the farm problem, but that more efficient management will. Includes interesting data regarding the import and export of farm products.

High Tariff Diplomacy, by Drew Pearson, in *The Nation*, Feb. 27, 1929.

An interesting analysis of the tariff in relation to foreign markets, country by country.

Are We Playing the Game? by George E. Putnam, in the *Atlantic Monthly*, July, 1928.

The author is the economist to the packing firm of Swift & Company.

March 26—Federal responsibility for public welfare and health.

BOOKS:

Leigh, Robert D. *Federal health administration in the United States*. Harper. 1927.

Bossard, James S. *Problems of Social Well-being*. Harper. 1927.

This book defines social well-being from the standpoint of health, economics and mental hygiene.

PERIODICALS:

Responsibility of government in public health work, by E. L. Bishop, in *American Journal of Public Health*, June, 1928.

A brief account of the interrelation between the Federal, State and local governments in programs for public health.

Maryland

THE Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, has issued a delightful calendar for book-lovers. Either a verse of poetry or a quotation about books is on each sheet and the illustration called "The Golden Land of Story-Books" is at the top of the calendar.

Library Organizations

Oklahoma State Library Association

THE Oklahoma Library Association held its annual meeting in Oklahoma City Feb. 6-8. Mrs. Elsie D. Hand, President of the Association, presided at all meetings. Many interesting papers were given, including discussions of library publicity; the real and practical value of public documents; a symposium discussion of reference books, and books of humor, poetry and biography; Oklahoma musicians, and an adequate appropriation for a public library. Jesse Cunningham gave the main address of the evening meeting on the subject "Good Will as a Basis for Library Service and Public Opinion." The last meeting was a sectional meeting in connection with the Oklahoma Teachers' Association, in which school libraries was the main theme for discussion. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mrs. E. C. Wilson, Librarian of Ada East Central State Teachers' College; First Vice-President, Miss Mabel B. McClure, Librarian of the Carnegie Library, Enid; Second Vice-President, Mrs. W. A. Phelps, Librarian of the Carnegie Library, Hobart; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Elaine Boylan of Oklahoma City.

St. Louis Chapter of the American Library Association

THE St. Louis chapter of the A. L. A. held its February meeting at the new Webster Groves Public Library, the first public library building erected in St. Louis County. The program consisted of addresses by Miss Katherine T. Moody on "Incidents in the history of Webster Groves," and Dr. George W. Stephens, president of the Webster Groves library board, on "The Library and Its History." Book reviews were given by Miss Margaret Doud and Mr. Leon Carnovsky.

Connecticut

A Borden Library Club has recently been formed in honor of Mr. William Alanson Borden, for many years librarian of the Young Men's Institute of New Haven. In 1910 Mr. Borden left for India where he became Director of the State Libraries of Baroda. Mr. Borden was elected Honorary President of the Club and Miss Abby Dunn, librarian of the Young Men's Institute, was elected President.

Library Club of Cleveland and Vicinity

THE first regular meeting of the Library Club of Cleveland and Vicinity for the year 1928-29 was a dinner meeting at the Women's City Club, Monday evening, Nov. 16. One hundred and thirty members were present to hear Dr. William Warner Bishop, Librarian of the University of Michigan, speak on "Modernizing the Vatican Library."

The second meeting of the season was held on the evening of Feb. 1. The program was an informal tribute to the memory of Mr. John Griswold White, who for forty-four years was actively interested in the Cleveland Public Library. At the close of the meeting an opportunity was given to see some of the rarities of the John G. White collection.

Forward Look in Mexico Is Discussed

THE San Antonio Library Club held its regular mid-winter meeting on Feb. 2 as the guests of the Pomona Public Library of Pomona, Cal. The meeting was held in the Pomona Mexican Church, and two interesting and well-informed speakers discussed the topic, "The Forward Look in Mexico." This club meets three times a year and is made up of the staff members of the various libraries from the surrounding cities of Pomona, Claremont, San Dimas, La Verne, Upland, Ontario, Chino and Brea-Olinda.

Sociology Professor Addresses Chicago Library Club

AT a meeting of the Chicago Library Club on February 14 Mr. William L. Bailey, professor of sociology of Northwestern University, chose "The Library Via the Community" for the subject of his address to the members. Mr. Bailey, an analyst of communities, said that communities, particularly urban ones, are complex organisms. Any survey of a community must take into account at least three hundred items, agencies, institutions, etc. Of this group there are about a dozen main aspects—economics, health, educational, etc. The library is classed as one of the dozen major parts. "The library in the community is as vital as any and more than some. In no small degree is it true that 'as is the library, so is the community.'"

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The Open Round Table

New Additions and Book Lists

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

It has occurred to me that whoever wrote the comment in the Editorial Forum of the LIBRARY JOURNAL for Feb. 1, 1929, that stated "that few libraries now publish extended lists of additions," might like to know why we make our list, which practically includes all additions, so long.

We have many branch libraries, 160, located near and far from the Central Office in Los Angeles, and only a few of the branches have yet been provided with catalogs, so that the principal purpose of our bulletin is to provide for our patrons a more accessible list of the books added to the library from time to time. At the end of the year the several numbers are indexed and bound. Two volumes have now been completed and each branch has been supplied with this annual printed catalog at an outlay of eighty-one cents each, which, however, does not include the salaries of persons who participate in its compilation.

The use of the volume at first was little, but it is now proving itself an invaluable tool, both to the custodians of small branches as well as the librarians of large branches and to many library patrons who find it helpful in requesting books that are not to be found upon the local library shelves.

HELEN E. VOGLESON,
Librarian, County of Los Angeles Free Library, California.

Standards in Librarianship

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIBRARY JOURNAL:

We were very interested in Mr. Shores's article (LIBRARY JOURNAL, Jan. 15, 1929) on "Limiting the Library School Output." Did he really mean, however, that "finally the requirements were raised until a college degree became an essential?" Perhaps a college degree is essential in Tennessee, but it certainly is not in the Middle West. In fact, library boards seem to steer away from college graduates—maybe they fear they'll have to pay too much for them. On our own library staff of twenty there are only three B. A.'s, one of whom is the Librarian. We sometimes wonder whether requirements in library work are going up after all. We surely wish there were legislations which would place librarians according to education, experience and training—and incidentally give them the salaries they deserve.

A TIRED-OF-BEING-PATIENT-ASSISTANT.

Girl Scouts Place Library Within Reach of Shut-Ins

A SERVICE distinctly beneficial to persons confined by illness or suffering from infirmity was inaugurated recently by the Des Moines Public Library of Iowa. Members of the Girl Scouts organization have volunteered to serve as messengers and will transport books to and from persons who have no other means of securing library service. The only effort necessary on the part of the reader is that of notifying the library that the service is desired. Girl Scouts will return the books when they are due or at any time previous to the date, upon request. Use of the telephone or mailing of a postal card will bring a scout with a desired book. There will be no charge for this service.

Children's Librarians' Section, A.L.A.

Executive Committee

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Four Members of Book Evaluation Committee

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Claire Nolte, Los Angeles County Free Library, Los Angeles, Cal.
Mary R. Lucas, Providence, R. I., Public Library.
Eleanor Stanfield, Public Library, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

The Members Elected at Large

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Cabinet, outside measurements, 36¼″ high, with casters, 14½″ wide, 24½″ deep.

No. 772	Olive green	**45.90**
	Two-tone tan	**48.20**
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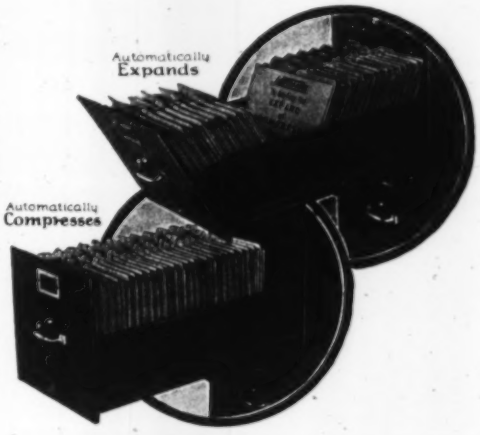

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Among Librarians

Della Dunmore, Simmons 1916, died of pneumonia on Feb. 13 in Seattle. Miss Dunmore had been in the reference department of the Seattle Public Library since September, 1924, and previous to that time had been on the staff of the Newark (N. J.) Public Library. Her loss is keenly felt by a host of friends both East and West.

Opportunities

United States Civil Service Examination

The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following open competitive examination:

Junior Librarian

Applications for junior librarian must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than March 26.

The examination is to fill vacancies in the Federal classified service for duty in Washington, D. C., or in the field. At present there is a vacancy in the office of Aide for Morale, Marine Barracks, Paris Island, S. C.; also a vacancy in the Bureau of Mines at Pittsburgh, Pa.

The entrance salary for this position in Washington, D. C., is $2,000 a year. For appointment to the field service the salary will be approximately the same. A probationary period of six months is required; advancement after that depends upon individual efficiency, increased usefulness and the occurrence of vacancies in higher positions.

The duties are to perform, under supervision, library work of professional grade. Competitors will be rated on library economy, cataloging, classification, bibliography and modern languages.

Full information may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners at the post office or custom house in any city.

* * *

Library school and college graduate holding the M.A. degree wishes to consider change in position. Reference or administrative work in a college or historical library preferred. Several years of experience in college libraries. G.14.

* * *

"Princeton University Library invites applications for three cataloging positions. In addition to high general requirements in academic and technical training, special consideration will be given to experience in cataloging of periodicals, classification and revision. Appointments will be made between now and September first, according to availability of candidates. Salaries $1,500 to $2,500."

* * *

TRAINED LIBRARIAN, ten years' experience, including three years' cataloging, two years' reference, one year in charge of small library, wishes new position August or September 1. Extensive knowledge of government documents. Prefer Middle West or West; position in reference department or involving administrative or reference work. G.13

WANTED—An experienced cataloguer with college degree and library school training. Salary, $1,800.00. Muskogee Public Library, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

* * *

College graduate with library school training, high school library and teaching experience; at present college librarian; desires change to position in or near New York City. G.15.

* * *

Woman, still young at forty, desires change of location. Holds A. B. and B. S. in Library Science, and has start on M. L. S. Several years' experience as college and teachers' college librarian as well as one year as instructor in library school of high standing. Minimum salary $2,500—$3,000 for school year. Available June 15 or Sept. 1. F.10.

* * *

Man available March 1, 1929, as chief librarian or reference librarian in university, public or special library. College graduate, Library School graduate. Experience as executive and administrator in library wok. Prefers to locate in eastern or mid-Atlantic States. N. 3.

* * *

Wanted: A high school librarian wishes temporary position during July and August, available June 20. Library school graduate. Experienced in public and college library and High School Librarian 6 years. F.12.

* * *

Position as library assistant wanted by young woman, high school graduate one year of college and other educational qualifications; graduate of a six months' apprentice course in library science in a large library, and some other library experience. F.11.

* * *

Librarian, with one year's experience and training in Library School, also experience in Public Library, wishes position as assistant in Public Library. R.H.1.

The Calendar

March 26—Rural Library Extension Conference called by A. L. A. at Chicago.
May 4-11—National Congress of Parents-Teachers, Washington, D. C.
May 9—International Book Exhibit, Seville, Spain.
May 13-15—Special Libraries Conference, Washington, D. C.
May 13-18—A. L. A. Conference at Washington, D. C. The first general meeting will be held on Monday evening.
May 20—Book Fair, Barcelona, Spain.
May 20-22—American Association for Adult Education, Chapel Hill, N. C.
June 6—Rhode Island Library Association at Westerly.
June 15-19—World Congress of Libraries and Bibliography, Rome.
June 25-26—Continued Conferences at Venice.

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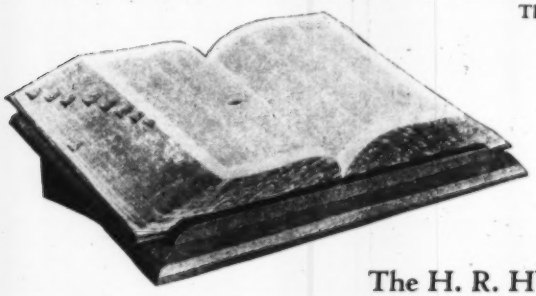

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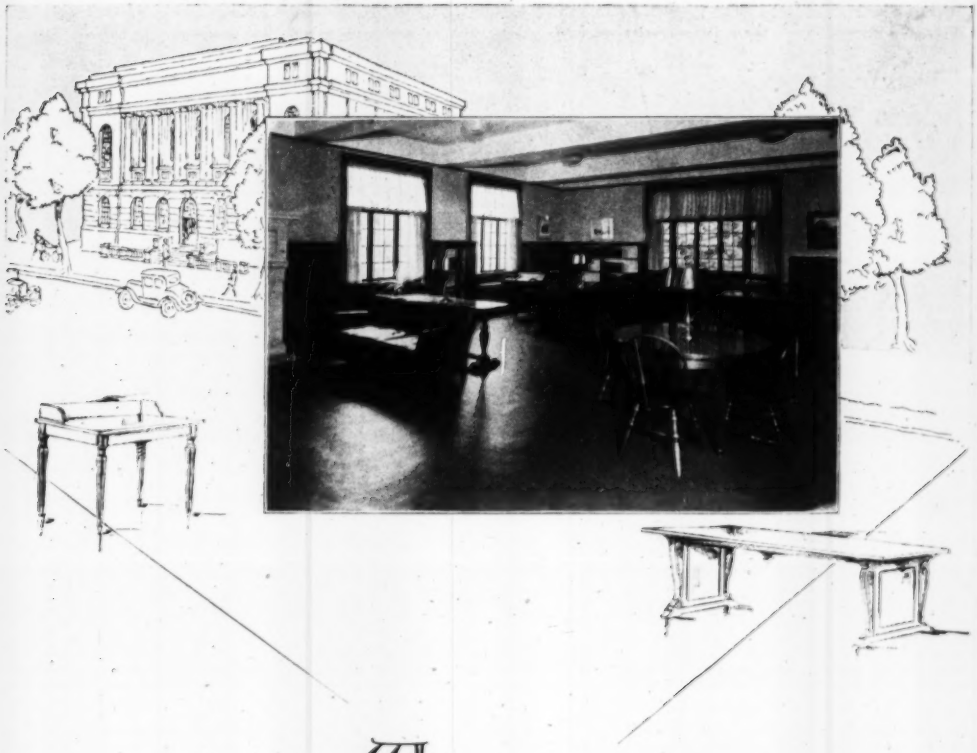

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